

STARBLAZER

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 41

14p



ASSAULT ON DESTRA

STARBLAZER



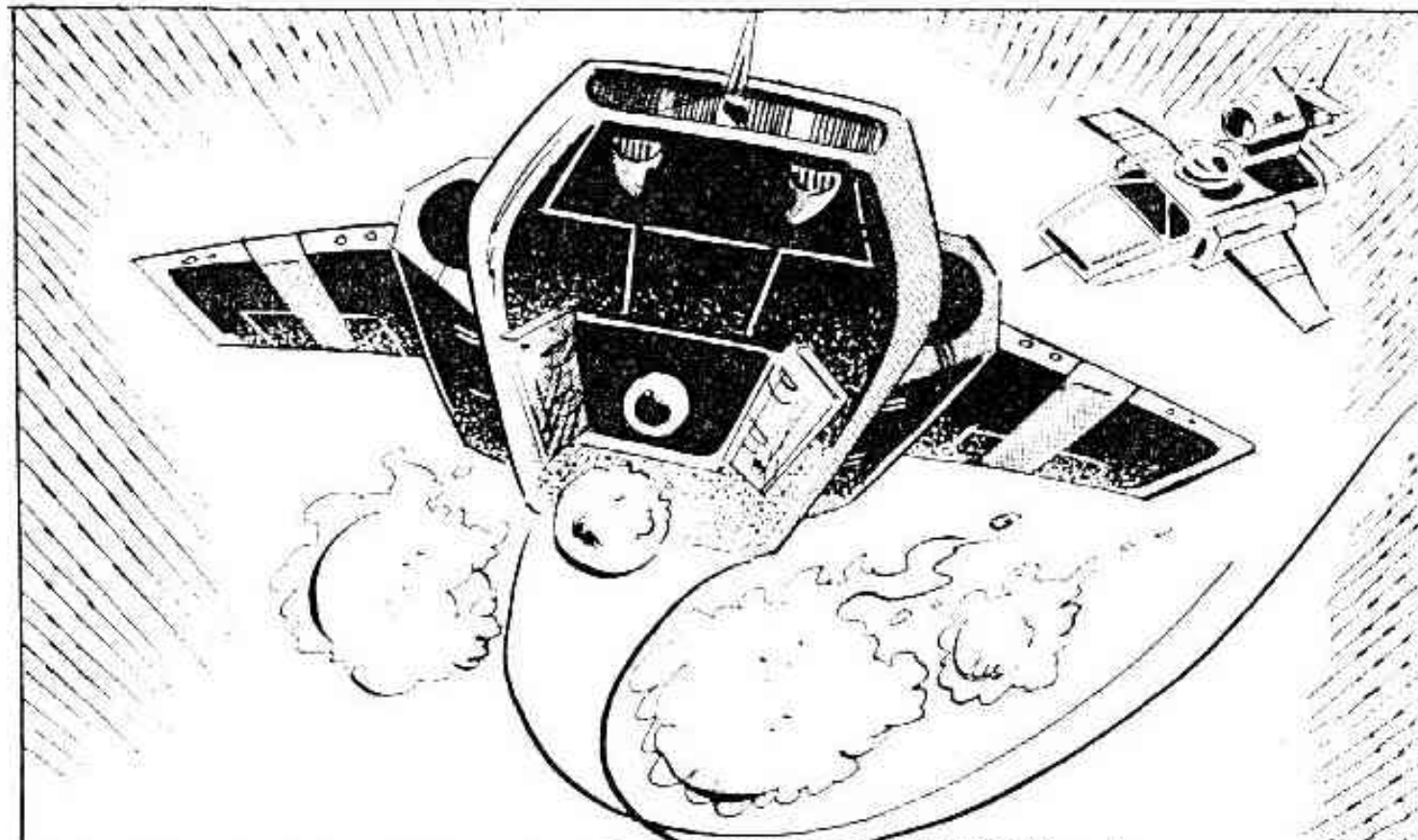
**RESTLESS
BANDS OF ADVENTURERS
WARPED ALONG THE SPIRAL
ARMS OF THE GALAXY AND
BUILT SIMPLE NEW CIVILISATIONS
WHERE THEY FELT FREE FROM THE
OVER-CROWDED COMPLEXITY OF
OLD EARTH. BUT TO THE DEFENCE-
LESS COLONY PARADISE OF
PLANET DESTRA CAME A
WANDERING STAR-WARRIOR
BAND LOOKING FOR A READY-
MADE KINGDOM. SO
BEGAN THE ASSAULT
ON DESTRA.**

ASSAULT ON DESTRA



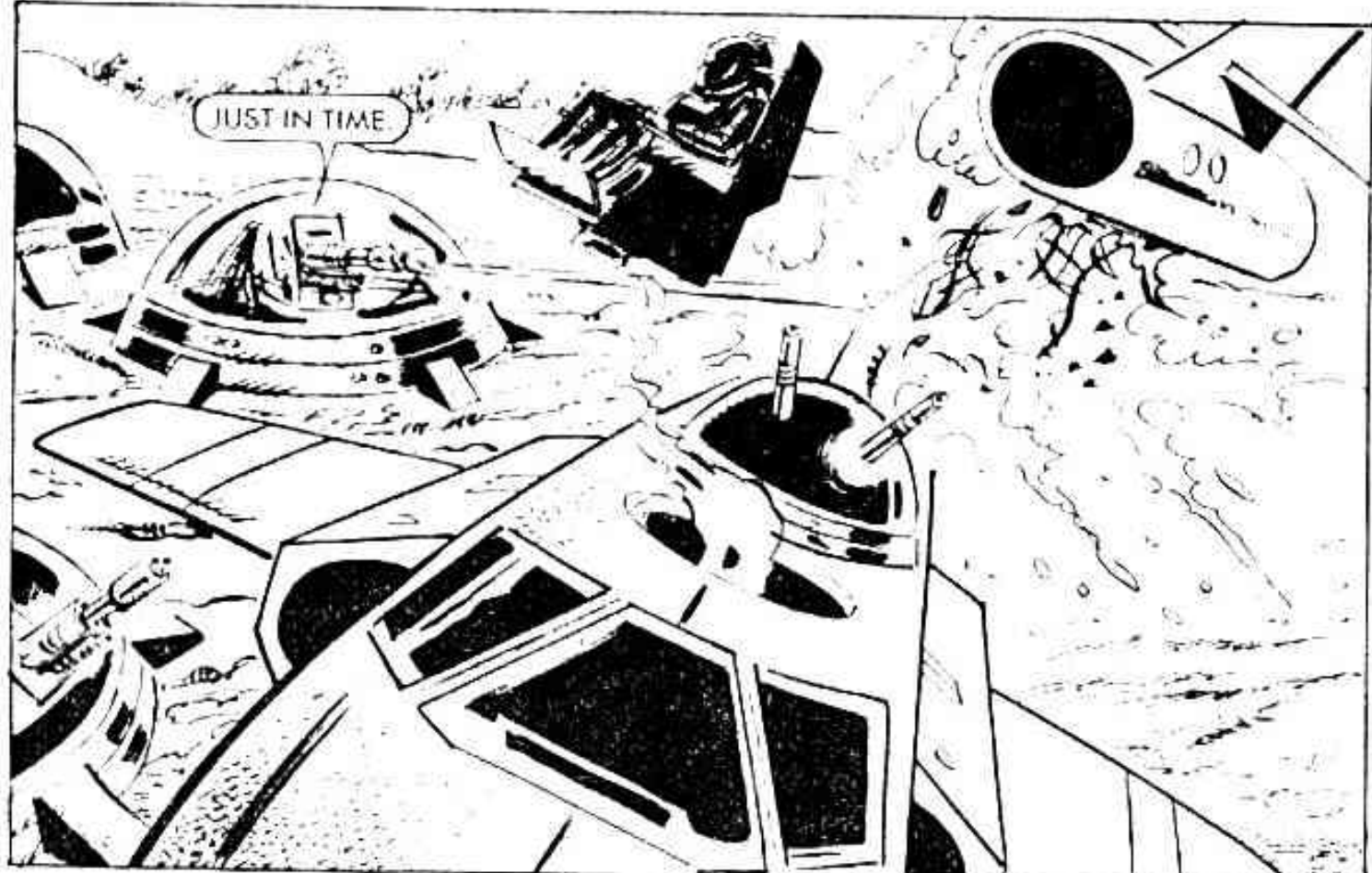
DESTRA, AN EARTH-TYPE PLANET IN A STAR-SYSTEM LIGHT YEARS AWAY FROM SOL, WAS THE UNSUSPECTING TARGET OF AN AGGRESSOR FROM DEEP SPACE.

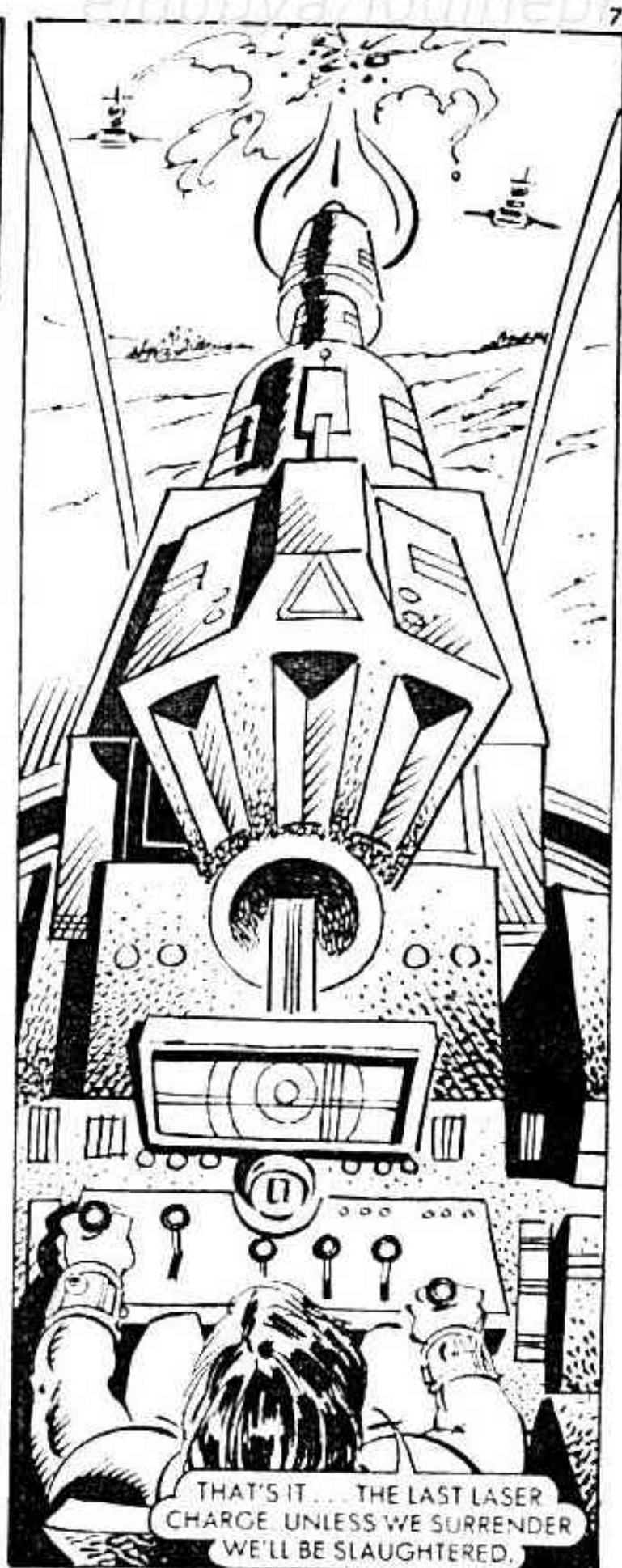
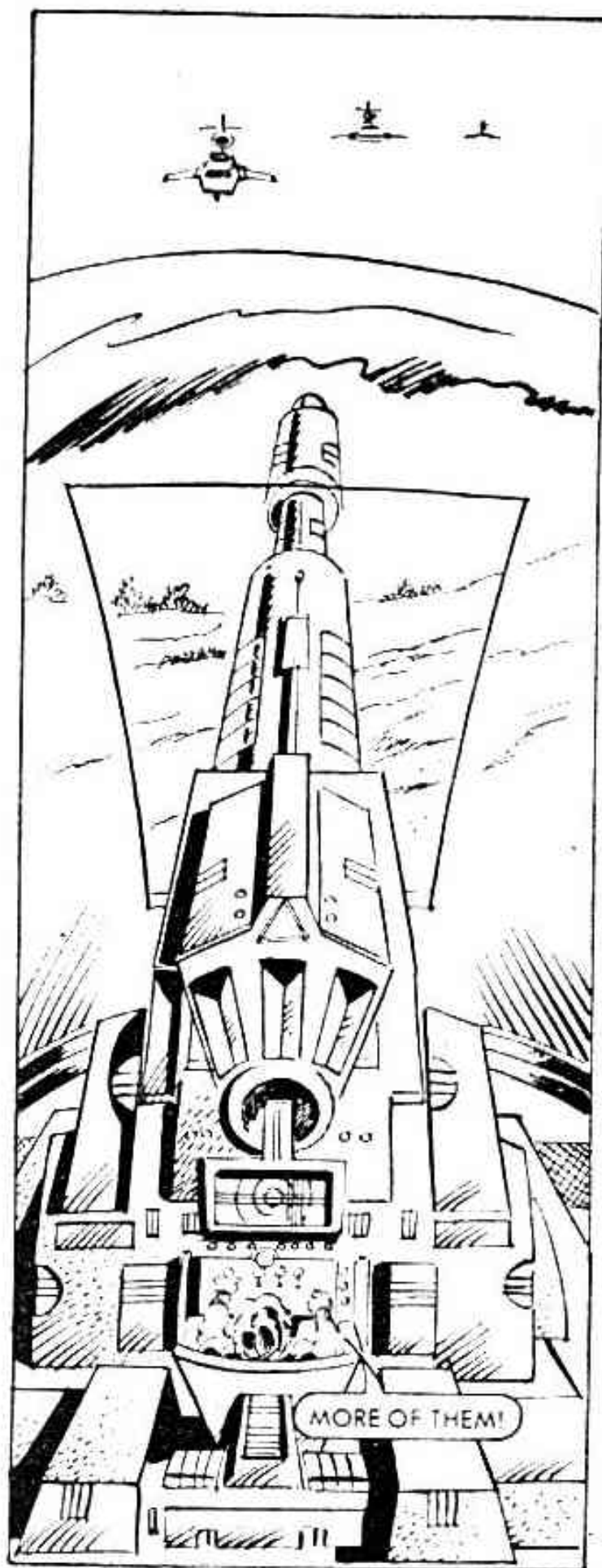
THE SMALL COLONY OF EARTH SETTLERS WAS TOTALLY UNPREPARED FOR THE ATTACK.



THE INVADING CRAFT RELEASED THEIR DEADLY CARGO OF THERMOGAZ — A SEMI-LIQUID SUBSTANCE THAT FORMED DEVASTATING FIREBALLS ON IMPACT.







PHIL MADE HIS WAY TO THE PRESIDENT'S BUNKER. THE PRESIDENT OF DESTRA HAD ALREADY REACHED A DECISION.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN JAMMED. WHOEVER ATTACKED US HAS DESTROYED THE SPACEPORT, BARRACKS, AND ALL OUR CANNON PILLARS. THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO.

WHAT ABOUT OUR SHUTTLE CRAFT?

WHAT ABOUT THEM?

WE HAVE POWERFUL NEIGHBOURS ON TRESKA. WHOEVER IS JAMMING COMMUNICATIONS MIGHT NOT HAVE RECKONED ON A BREAKOUT BY A SHUTTLECRAFT.

THE PRESIDENT AGREED TO LET PHIL TRY.

IT'S UP TO ME NOW.

THE SHUTTLE HAD BEEN USED TO BRING THE COLONISTS DOWN FROM THEIR SPACESHIP. NOW IT WOULD HAVE TO TRY AND CROSS SPACE TO ANOTHER PLANET.

IGNITION AND LIFT OFF!



PHIL'S SHUTTLE CROSSED THE ORBIT OF THE MONSTER STARSHIP.



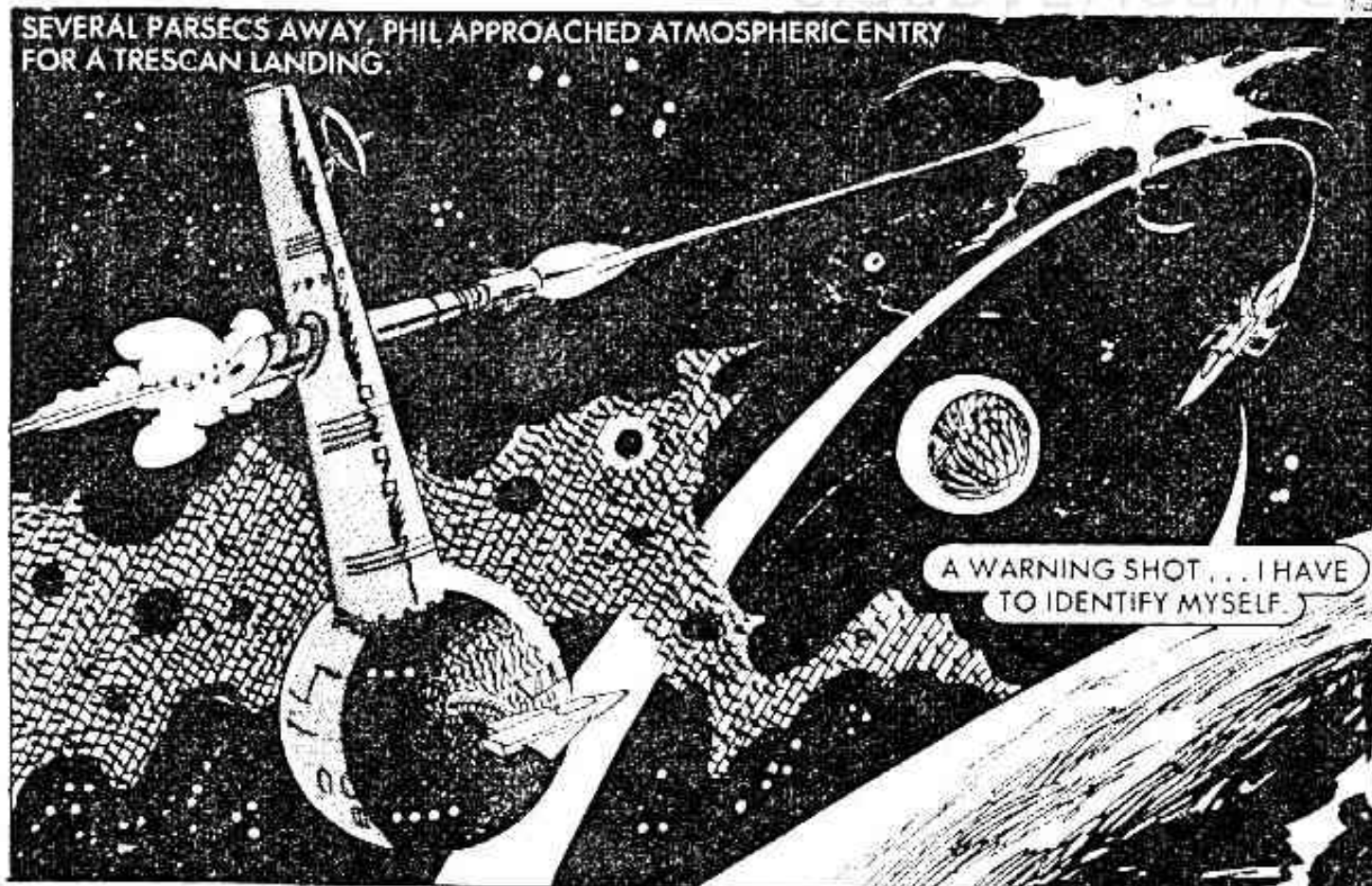


ROGAN, A SPACE TROOPER DISMISSED FOR HIS BARBARIC WAYS, PLUNDERED AND KILLED FOR SADISTIC PLEASURE.





SEVERAL PARSECS AWAY, PHIL APPROACHED ATMOSPHERIC ENTRY
FOR A TRESKAN LANDING.

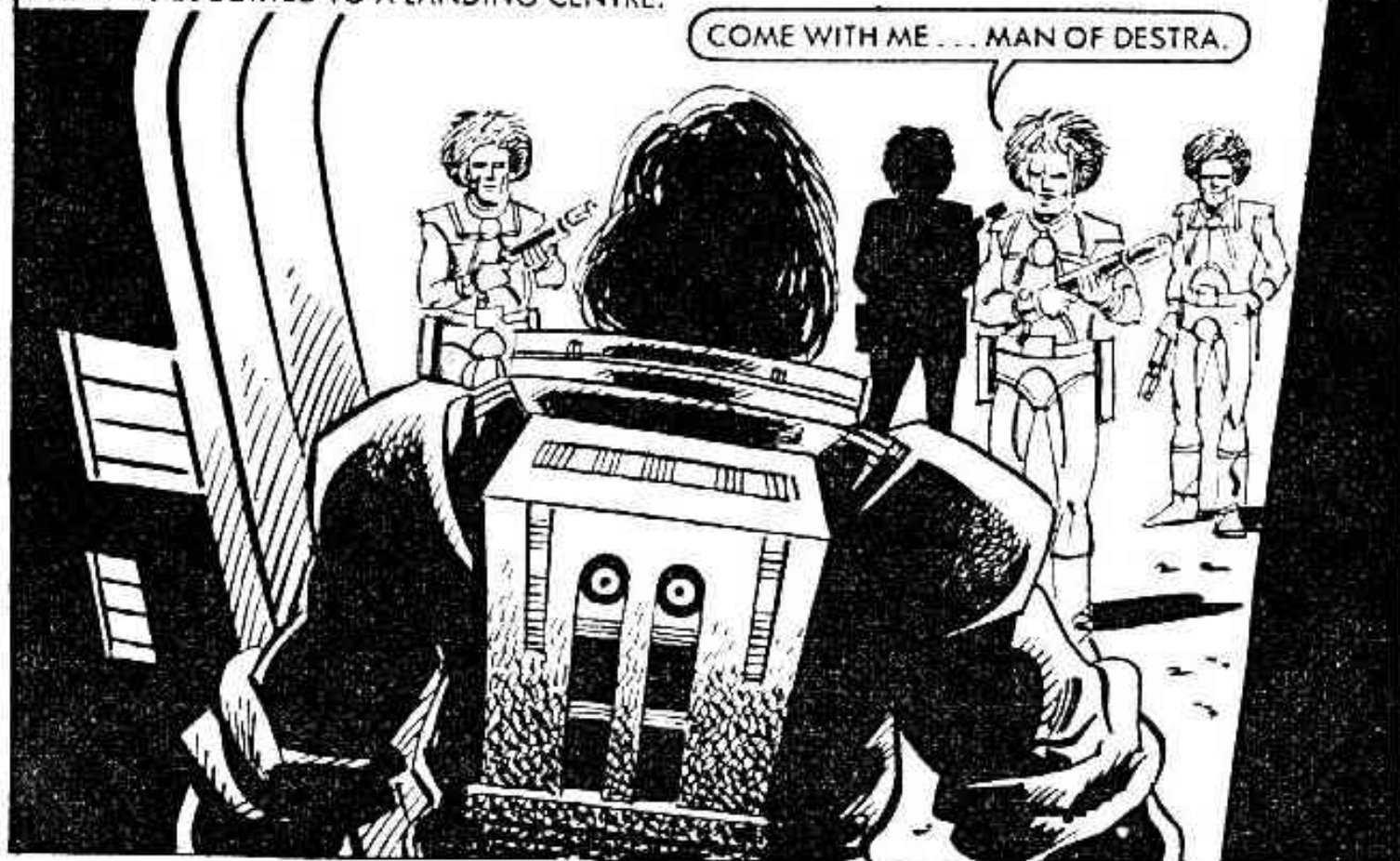


PHIL TRANSMITTED THE GALACTIC EMERGENCY CODE.



PHIL WAS ESCORTED TO A LANDING CENTRE.

COME WITH ME... MAN OF DESTRA.



PHIL WAS TAKEN TO AN ADMINISTRATION BLOCK.

DESTRA HAS BEEN OVERRUN BY
ROGAN. WE ARE INSUFFICIENTLY
ARMED TO PREVENT CONQUEST. WE
NEED YOUR HELP.

WHY SHOULD WE HELP YOU?





PHIL WANDERED AIMLESSLY, UNTIL HE FOUND HIMSELF IN A CANTINA, TALKING TO A TRESKAN.



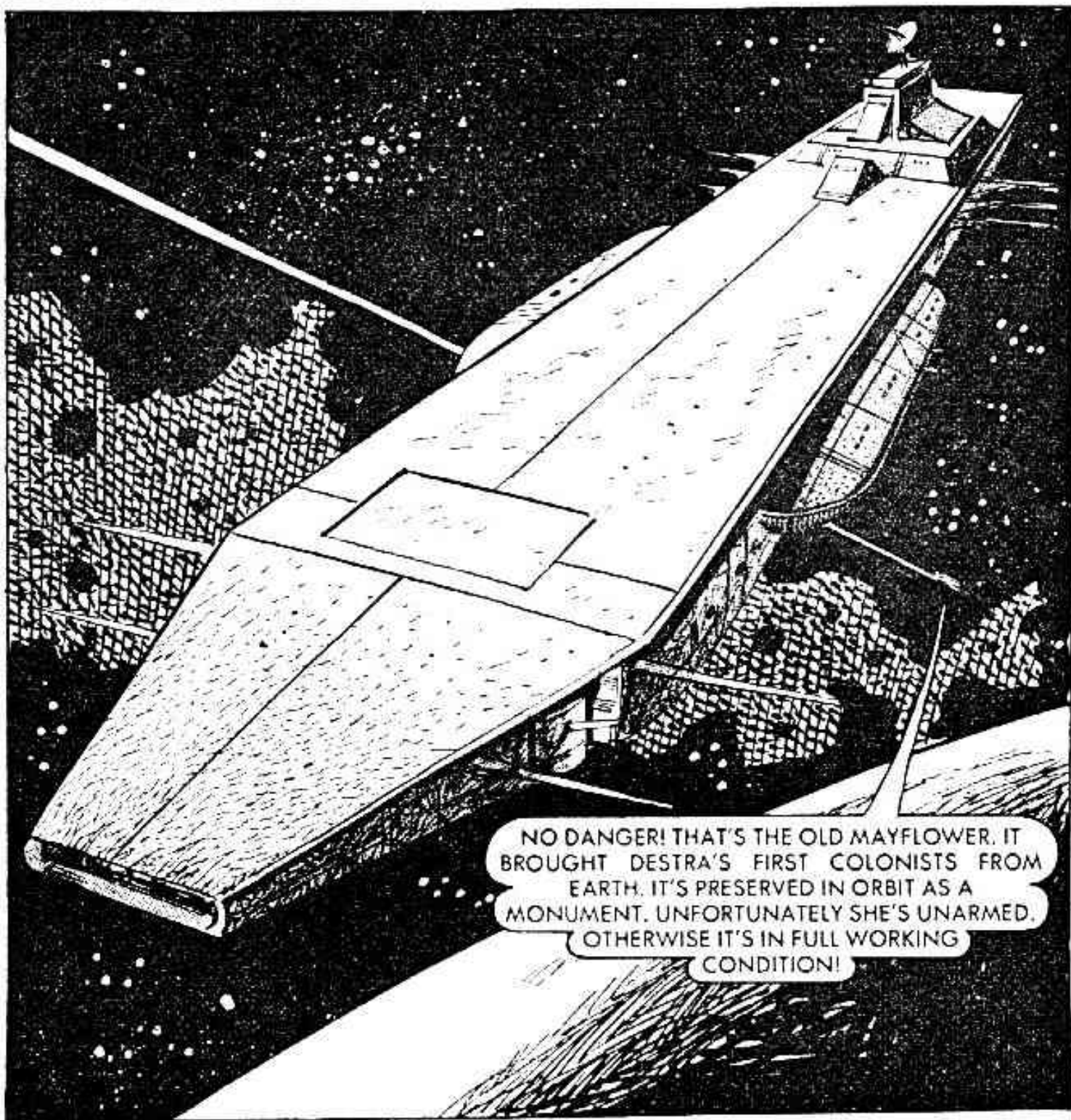


THE TRESKAN TRADER'S SHIP CLAWED ITS WAY INTO THE SKIES.

YOUR NAME IS PHIL, MINE IS BLO ...
OR THAT IS THE PRONOUNCEABLE ABBREVIATION.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO PROVE TO
TRESKA EXACTLY WHAT ROGAN'S
INTENTIONS ARE?

YOU TAKE ME TO WHERE THE INVASION
FORCE IS. I'LL VIDEO-TRANSMIT BACK TO
TRESKA ... THEY'RE BOUND TO SEND
FIGHTERS TO INVESTIGATE.



WITH ANTI-DETECTION SCREENS OPERATING, BLO TOUCHED DOWN IN A DESERTED CORNER OF DESTRA.

WHERE DO WE
GO FROM HERE?

THE NEAREST
INHABITED PART.



THEY KITTED UP AND JET-HOPPED OVER THE ROUGH TERRAIN.



ACTIVITY FORCED BLO AND PHIL TO STOP.



CAREFULLY THEY PICKED THEIR
WAY BETWEEN THE TOWERS.

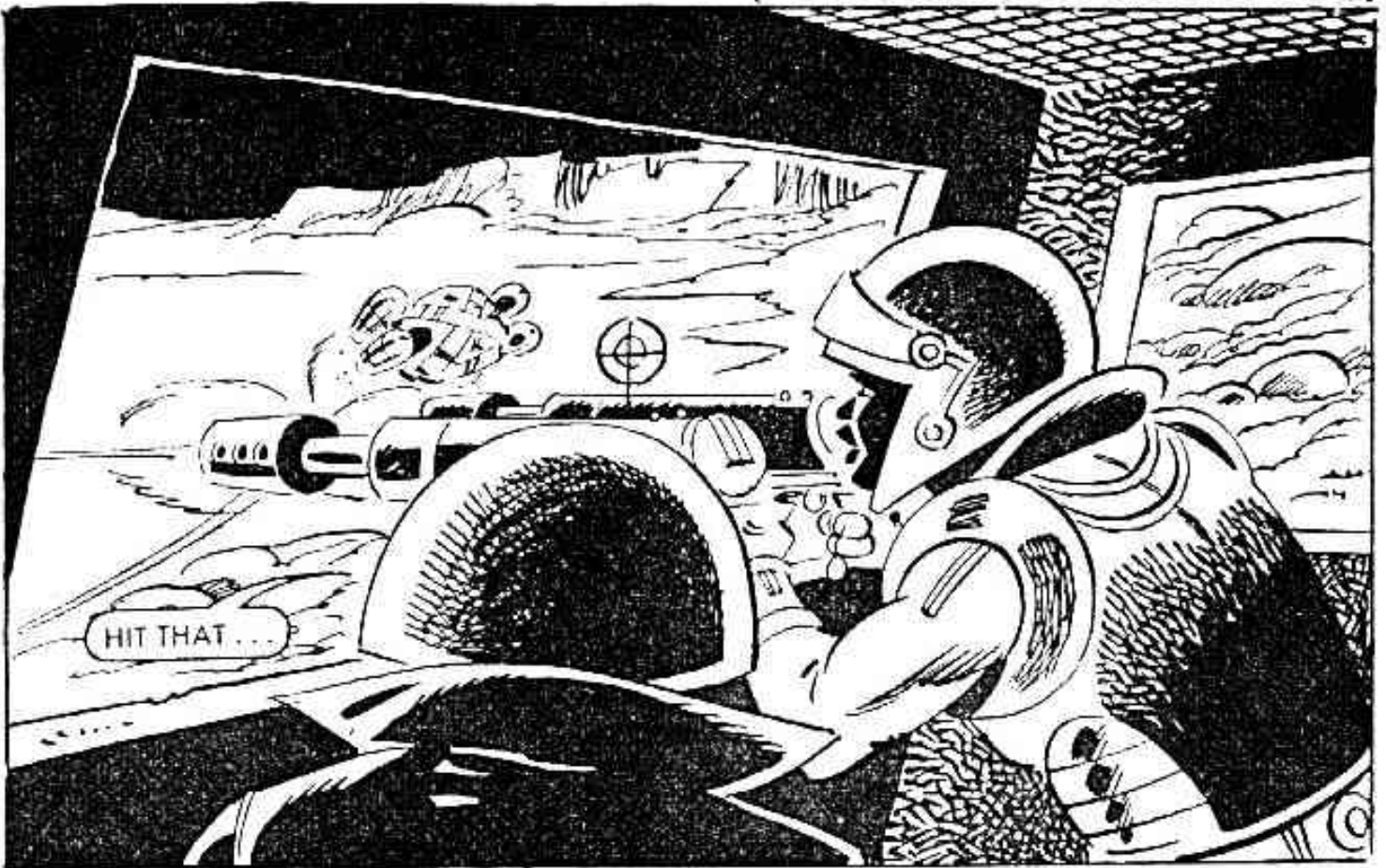




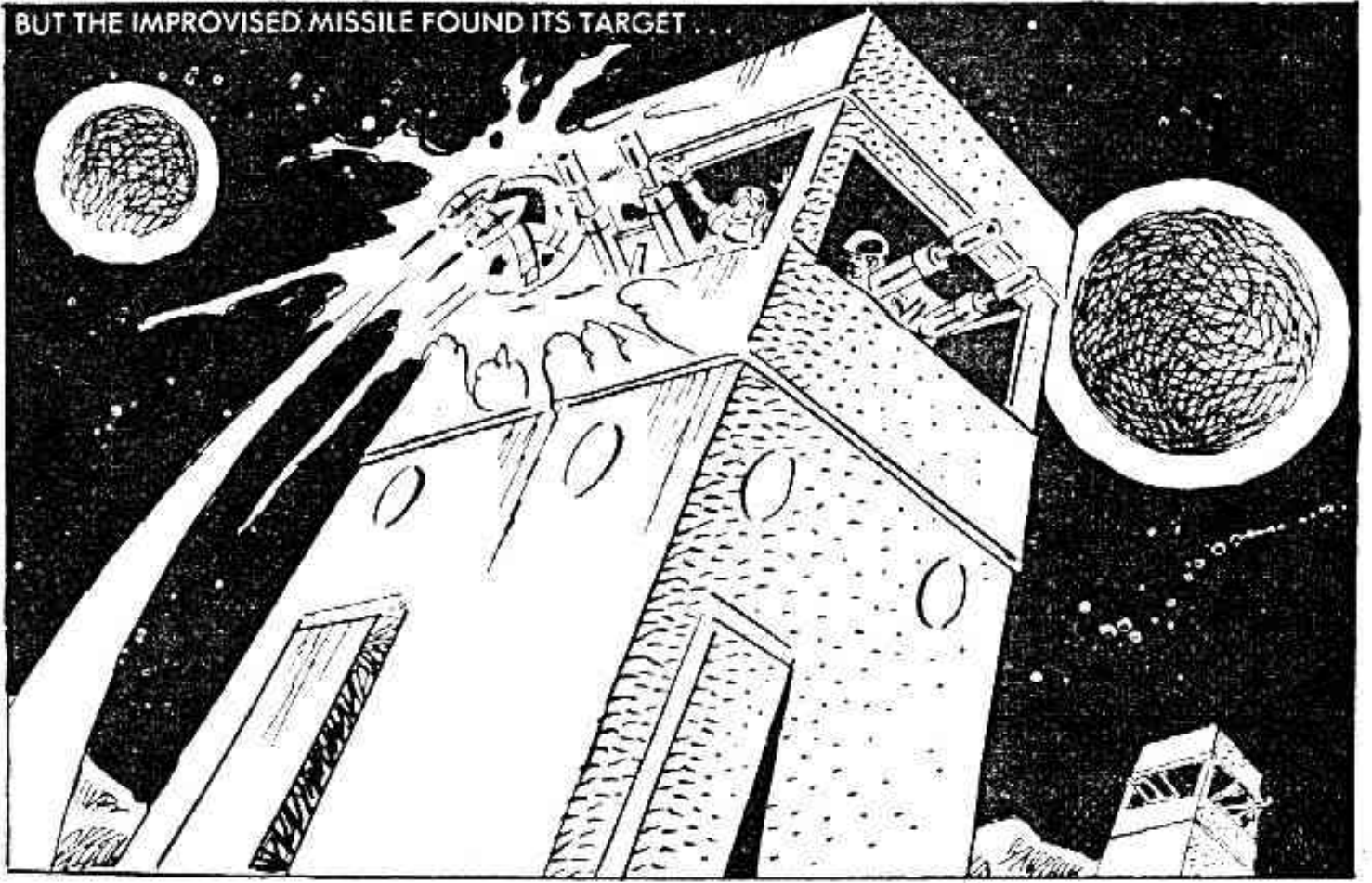
SECONDS AFTER THEY THREW THEMSELVES OUT OF THE BEAM, A SEARING BEAM OF LASER POWER MELTED THE GROUND.







BUT THE IMPROVED MISSILE FOUND ITS TARGET...



AND WITH A RESOUNDING EXPLOSION, THE TOWER COLLAPSED.



THE FENCE IS BREACHED AND THE GUN OUT OF ACTION.
NOW IS THE CHANCE TO ESCAPE.



THE IMPRISONED DESTTRANS BROKE OUT.



NERVE GAS... I MUST GET CLEAR BEFORE IT TAKES EFFECT.





BLO DRAGGED THE DESTAN PRESIDENT CLEAR.



ROGAN WAS TOLD OF THE RAID.

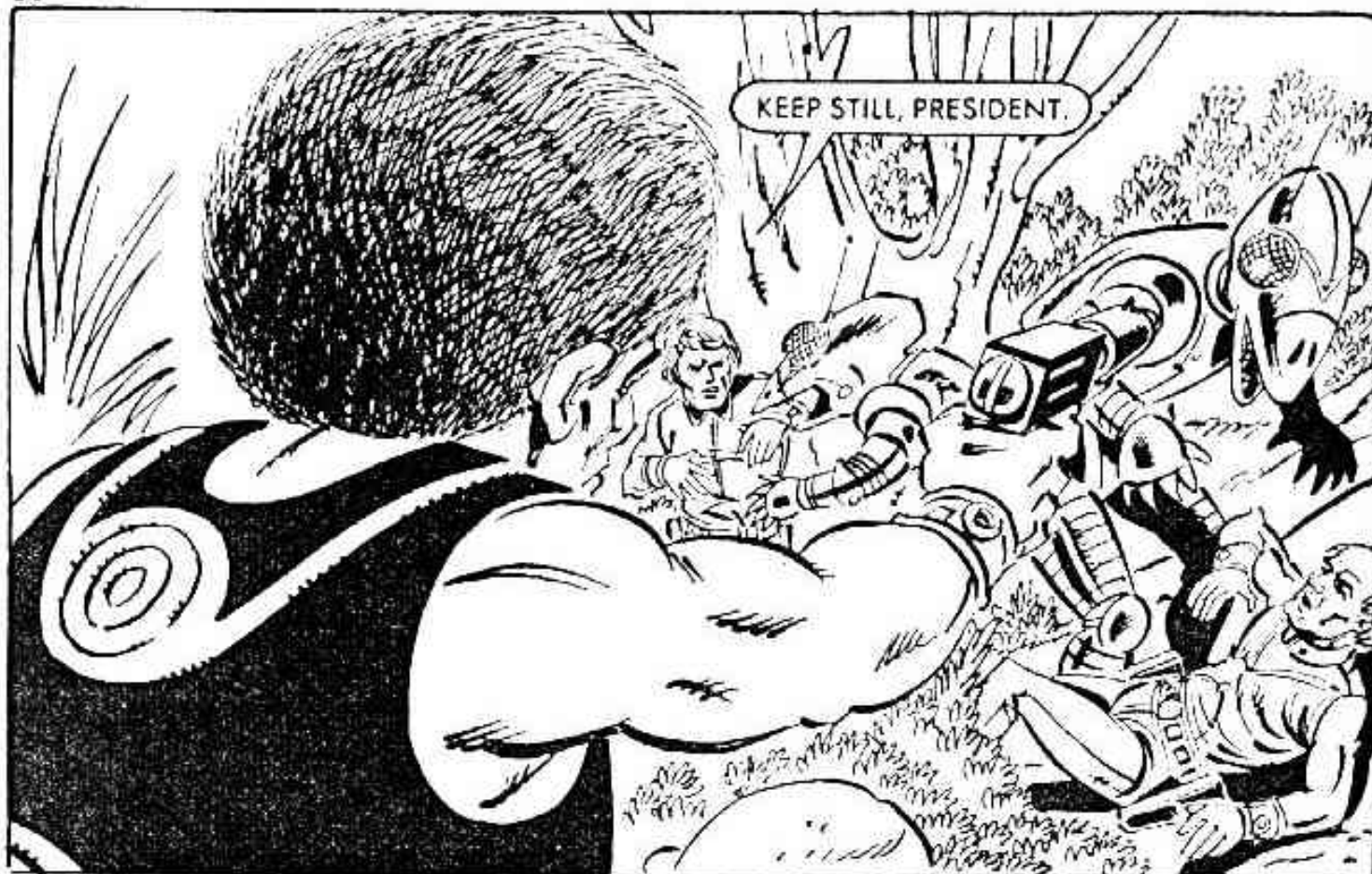






AS THEY PREPARED TO MOVE ON, THE SAVAGE ROBOMORTS ATTACKED.











WHILE THE THREE FREE MEN TALKED, ROGAN PONDERED HIS NEXT MOVE.



THREE MEN THREATEN MY PLANS... THEY MUST BE
ELIMINATED AT ALL COSTS

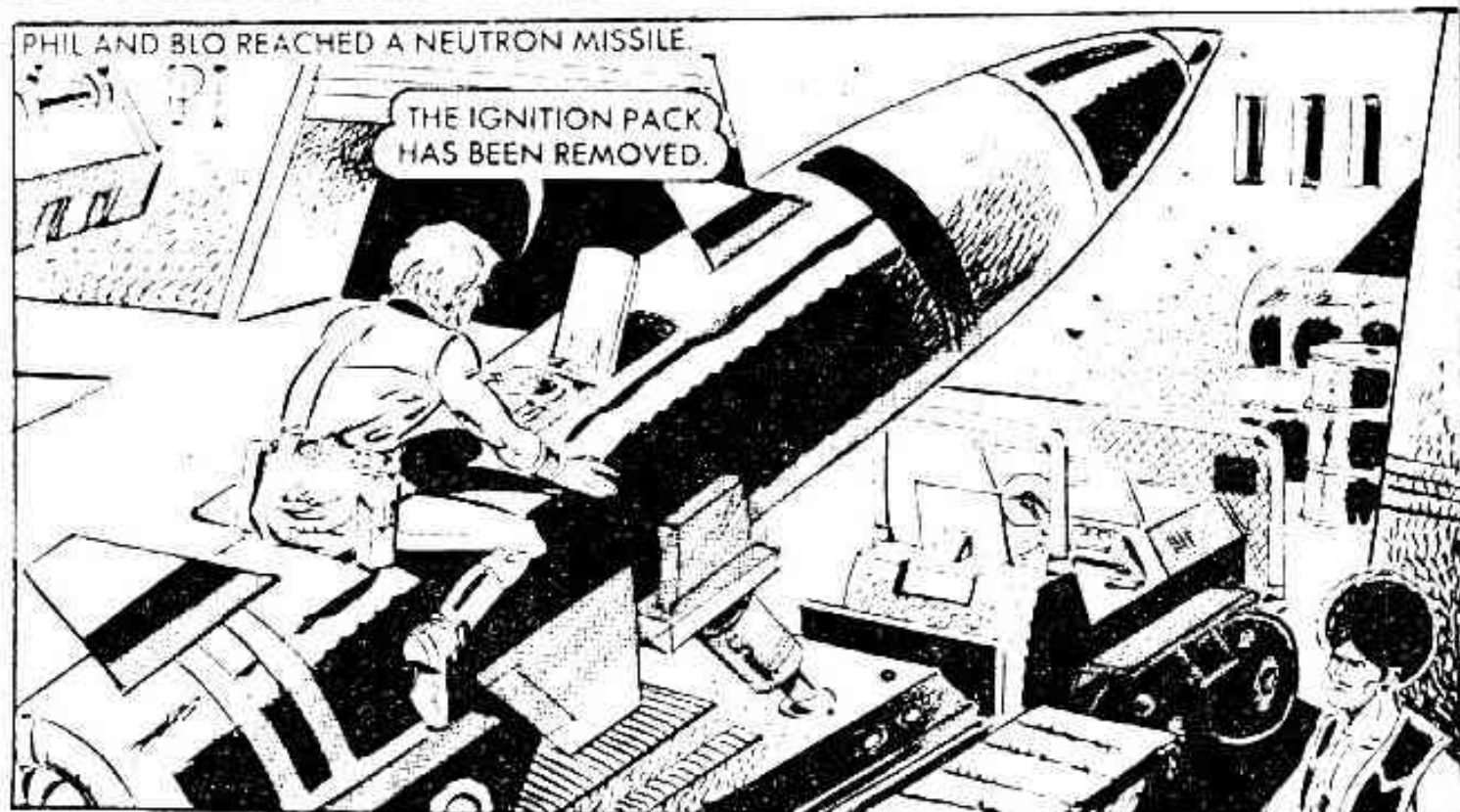
BLO HAD REACHED A DECISION...

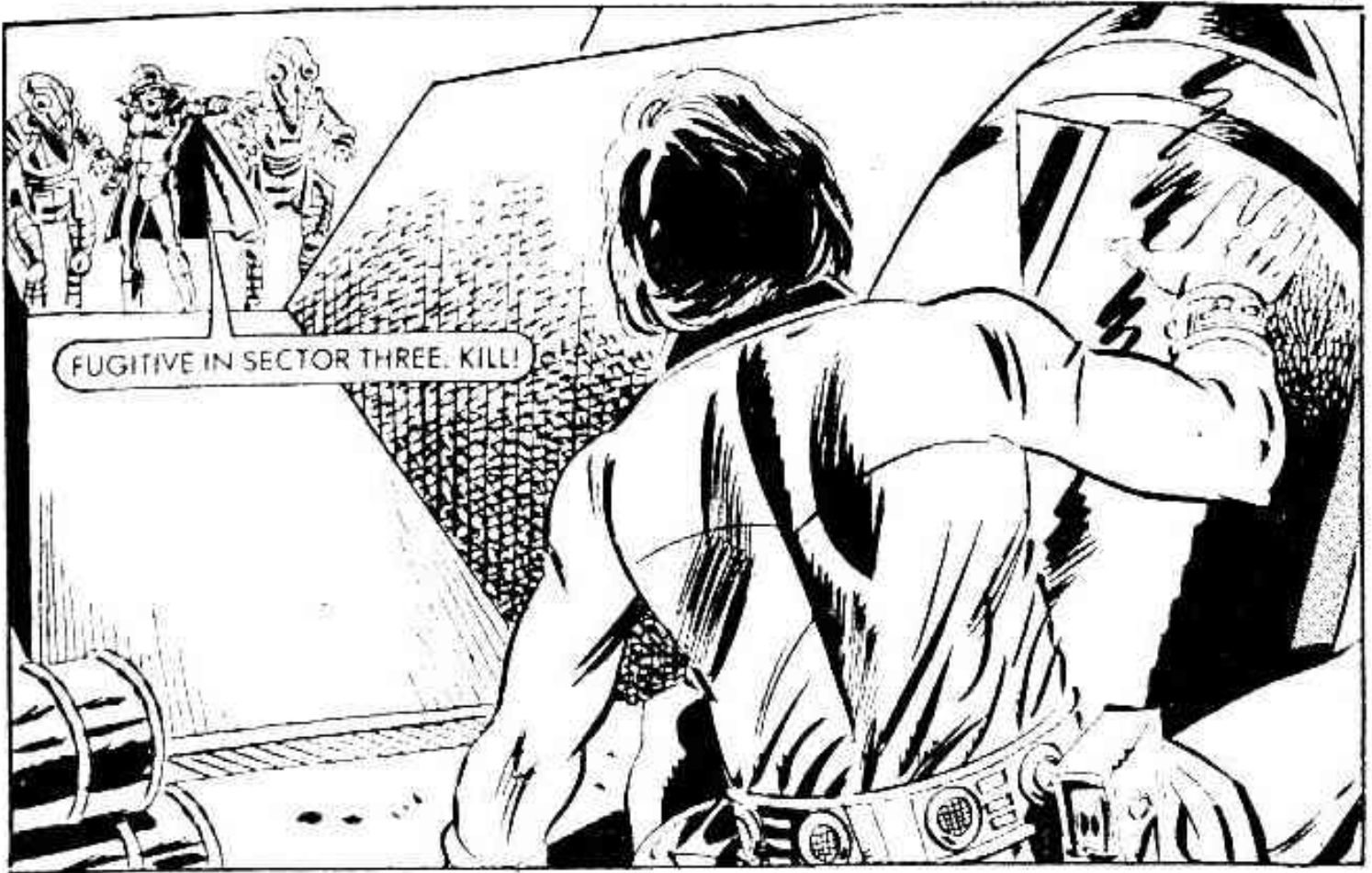
I WANT TO TRANSMIT PICTURES THAT WILL PERSUADE THE
DEFENCE CHIEF THAT TRESKA IS THREATENED

THE MAIN BASE IS
ESTABLISHED NEAR HERE



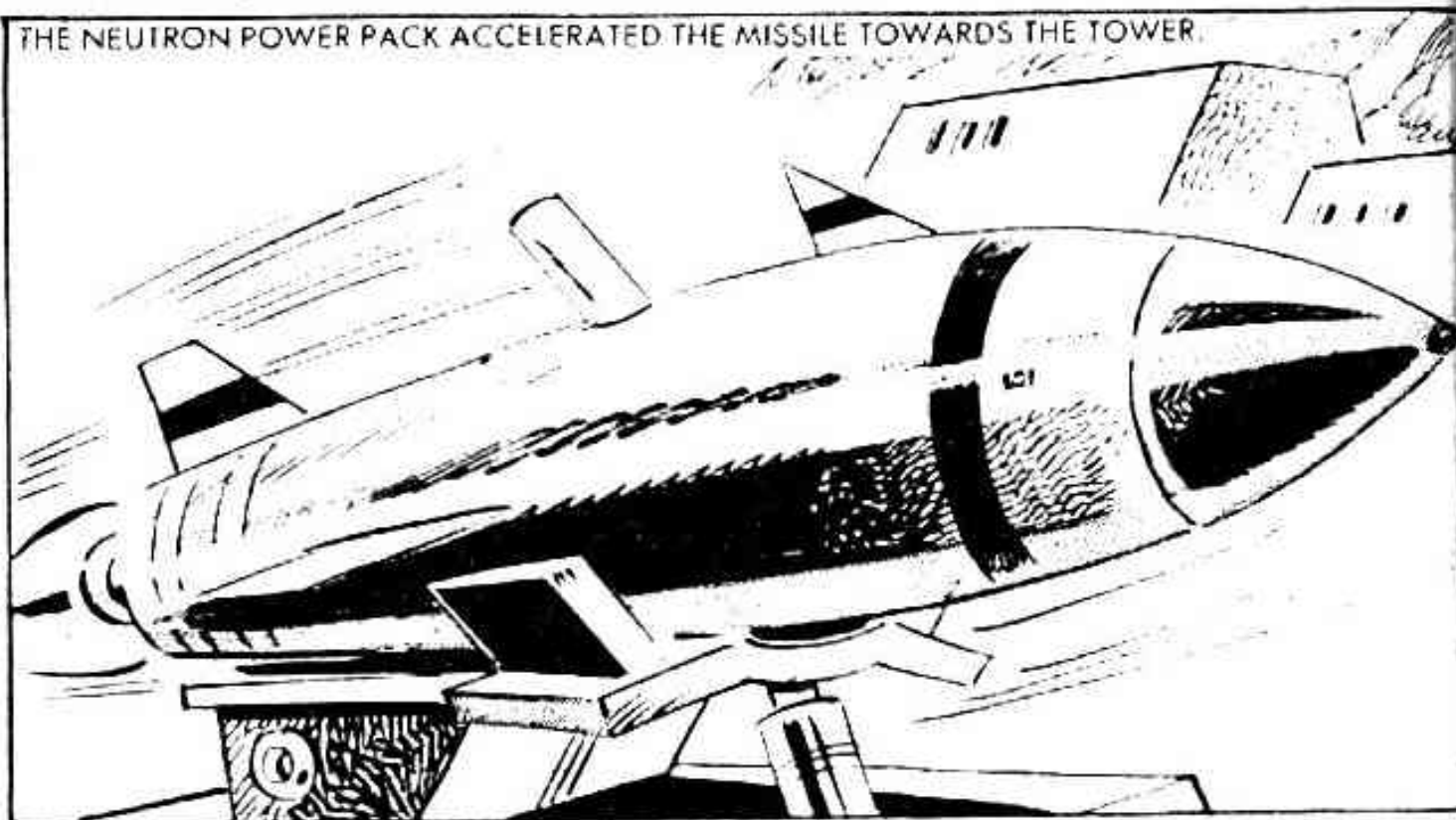




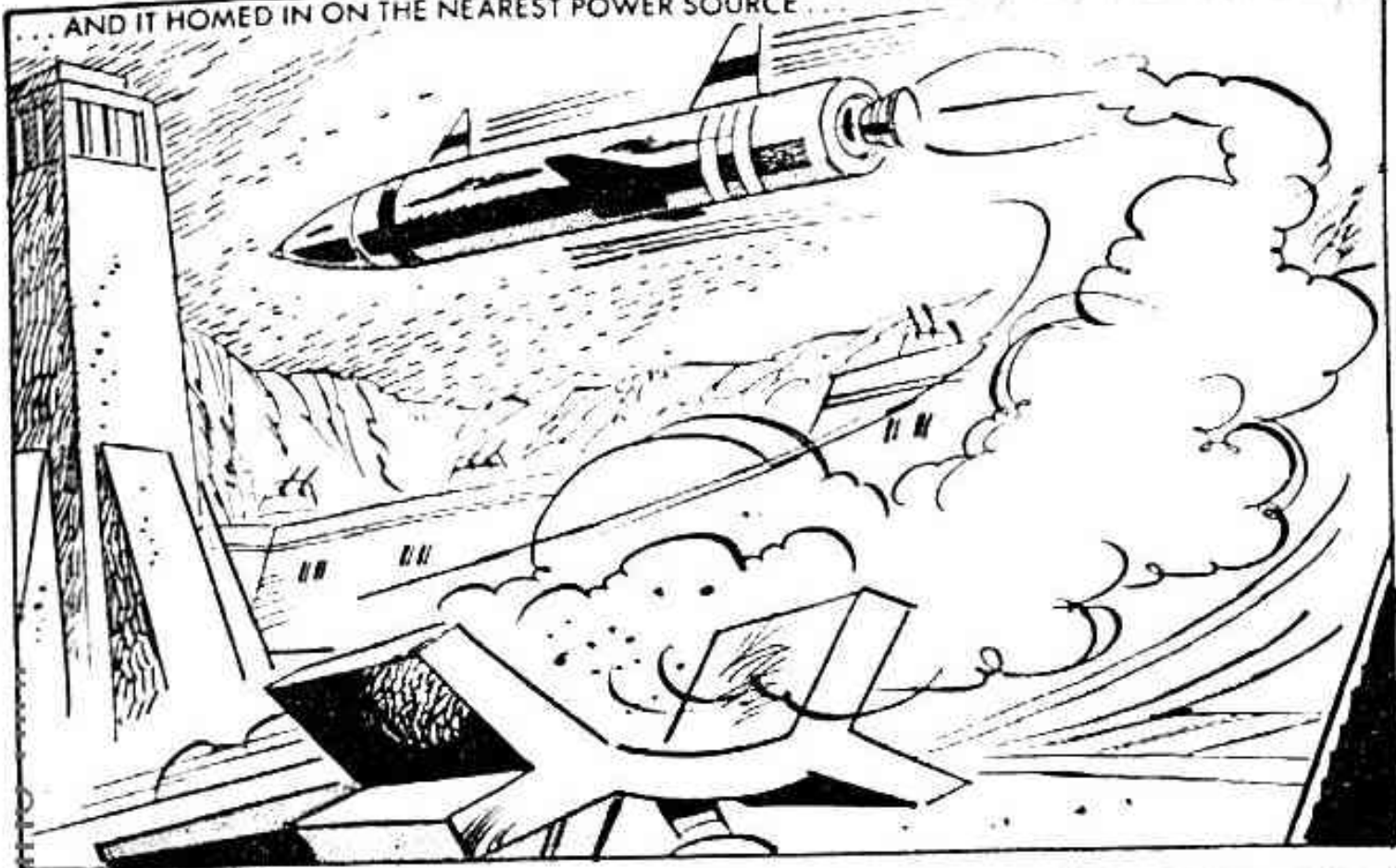




THE NEUTRON POWER PACK ACCELERATED THE MISSILE TOWARDS THE TOWER.



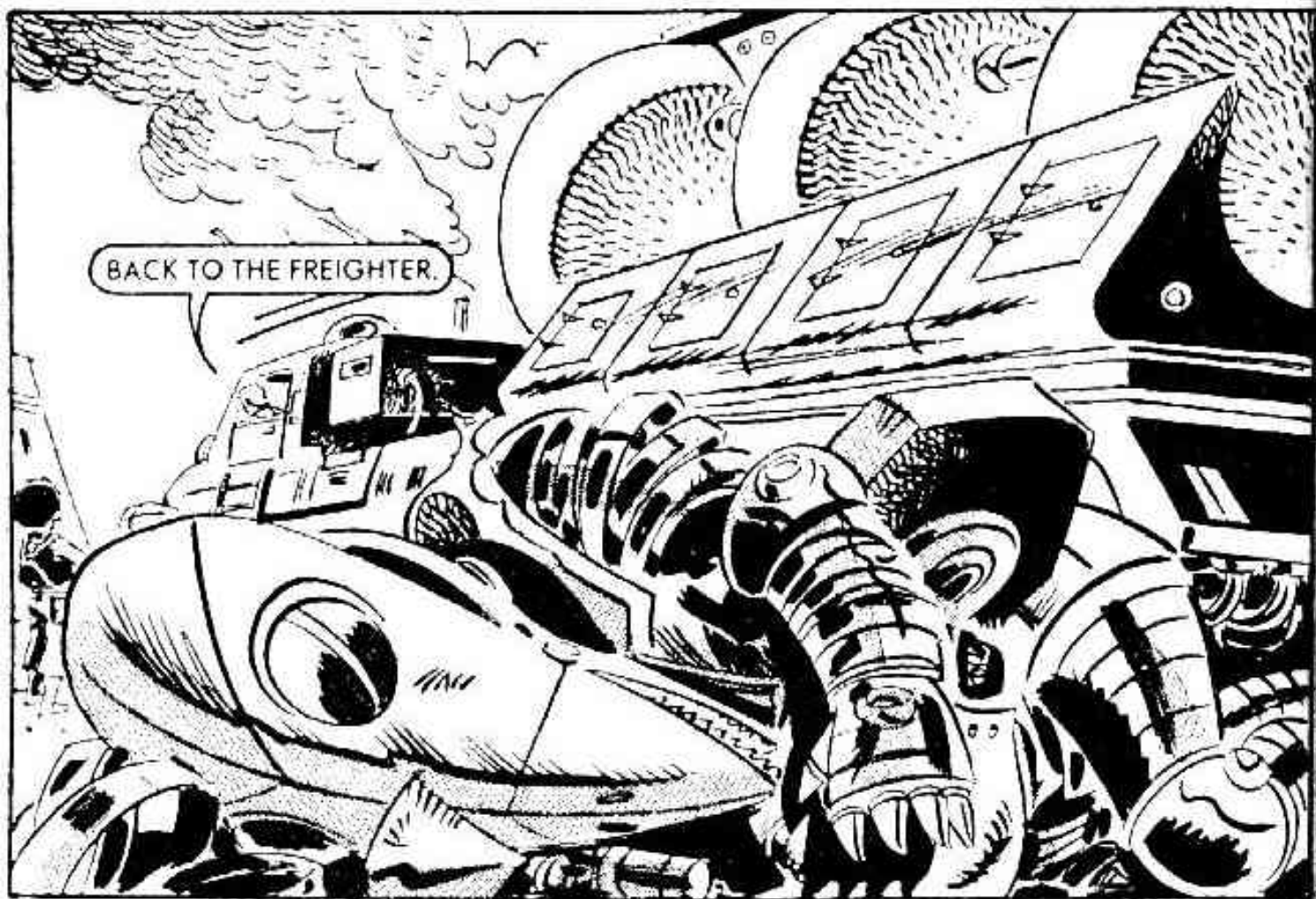
... AND IT HOMED IN ON THE NEAREST POWER SOURCE ...



IN THE CONFUSION, THE FUGITIVES BOARDED A LOADING VEHICLE.

WHAT'S ON THE BACK OF THIS
THING?

LASER CANNON
AND CHARGES.



BACK TO THE FREIGHTER.

THEIR RETURN JOURNEY WAS UNEVENTFUL.

FINAL DESTINATION THE MAYFLOWER!

A CONFERENCE OF WAR WAS BEING HELD
IN ROGAN'S H.Q.

I CANNOT OVERWHELM
TRESKA AND LEAVE
MY BACK UNPROTECTED
HERE, WE MUST WIPE OUT
ALL OPPOSITION.

SIR... ALIEN VESSEL IN SECTOR
20X17... IT IS BLASTING OFF.

AN ALIEN VESSEL ... IT MUST
BE THE INTRUDERS. TRACK IT! GET
THE FIGHTERS AFTER IT.



THE COLONIST PRISONERS WERE GROWING
RESTIVE.

LOOK AT THAT! THEIR
ROBOMORTS ARE NOT WORKING!

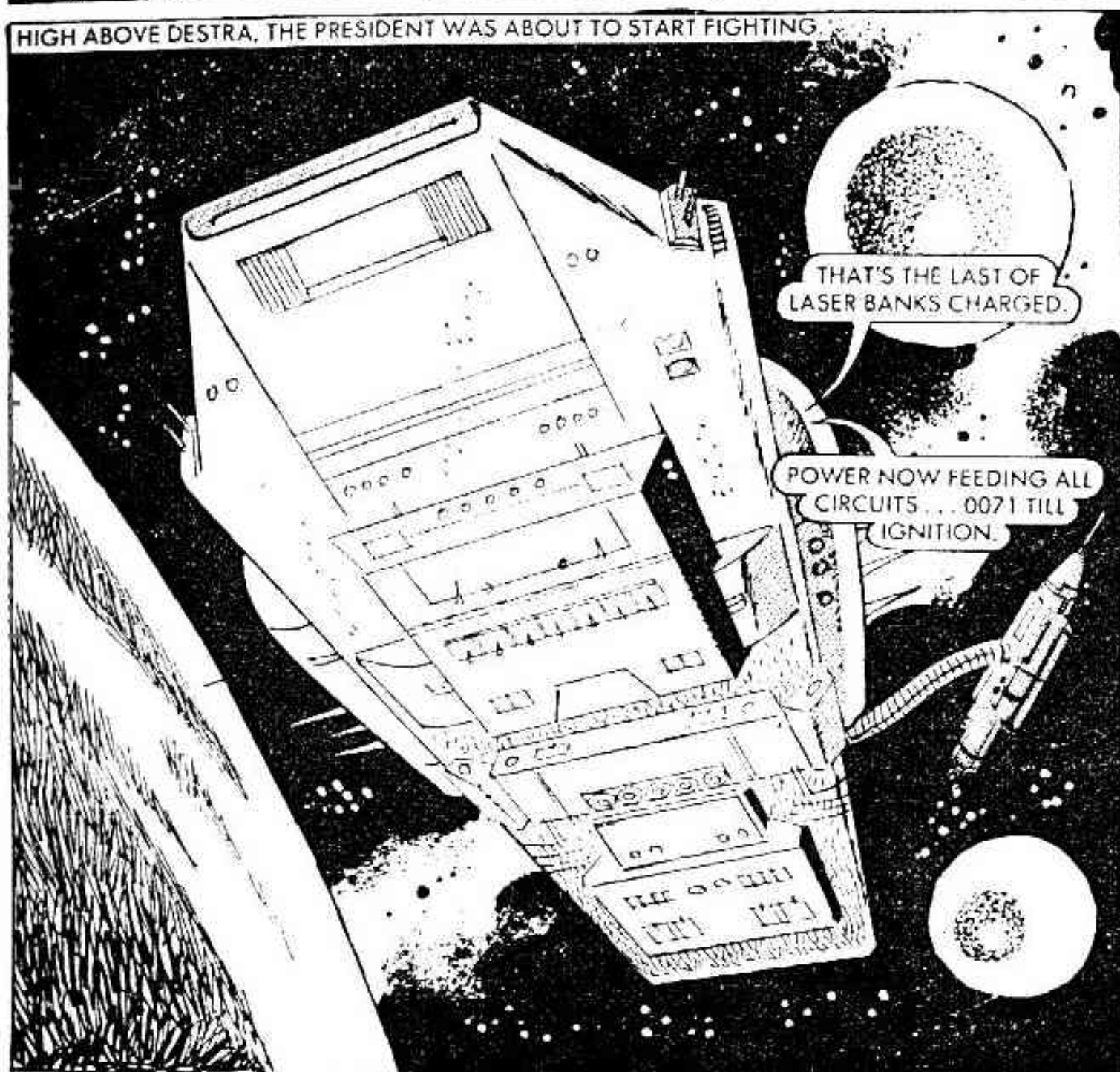


SOMETHING'S UP ... THAT'S THE
THIRD FLIGHT OF THEIR FIGHTERS
I'VE SEEN TAKE OFF IN THE LAST
TWO MINUTES.





HIGH ABOVE DESTRA, THE PRESIDENT WAS ABOUT TO START FIGHTING

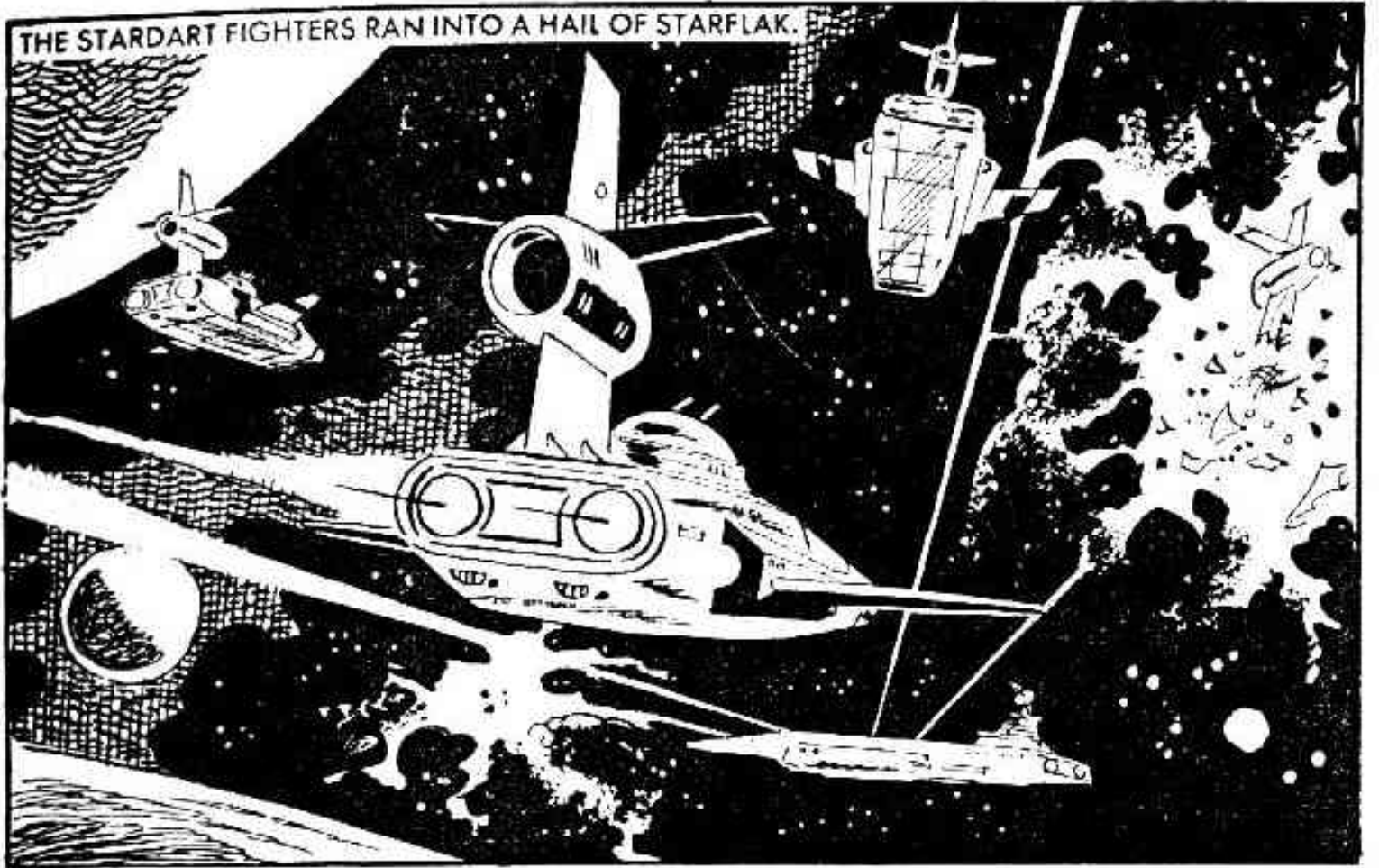




MAYFLOWER WAS EASED OUT OF THE ORBIT IT HAD OCCUPIED FOR EONS.

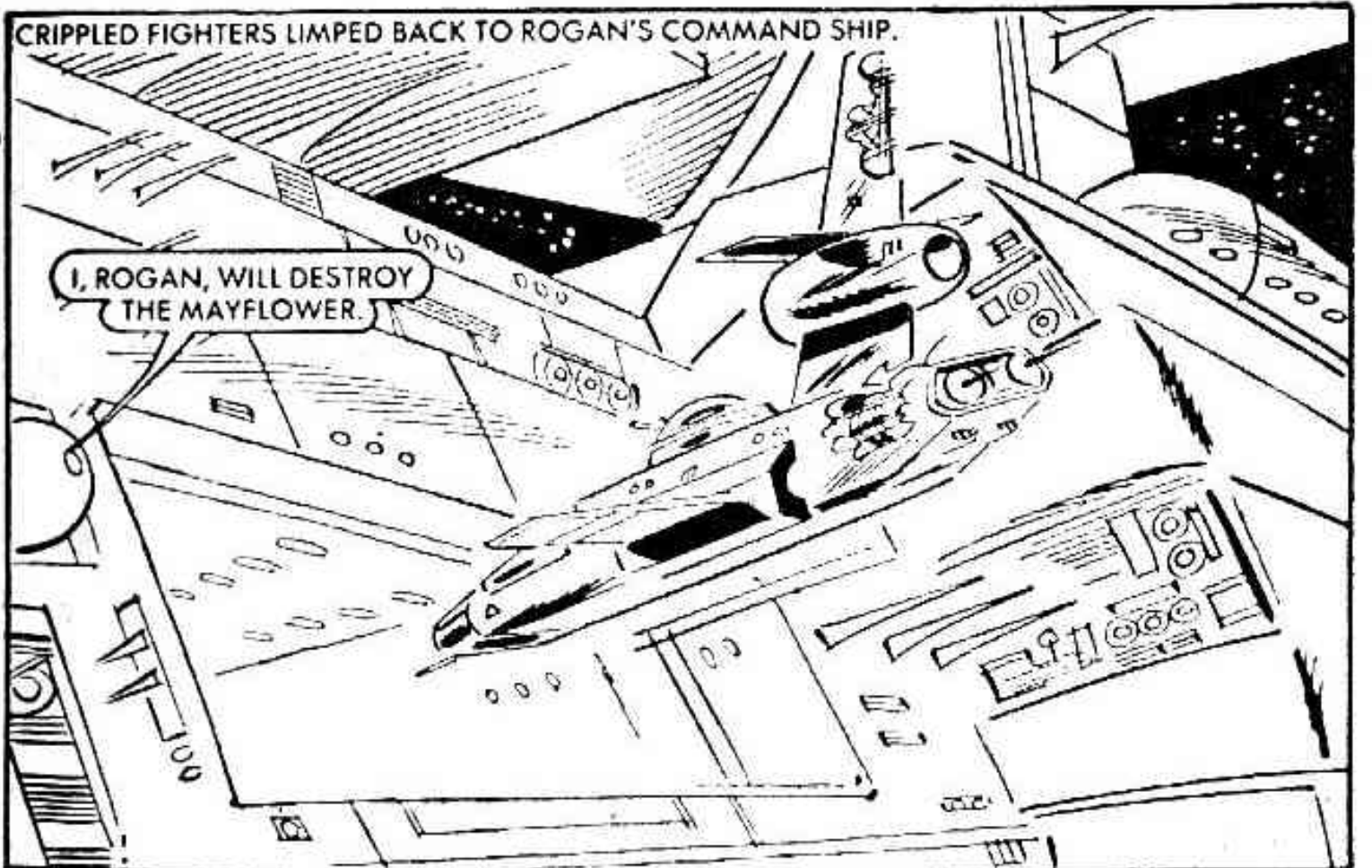


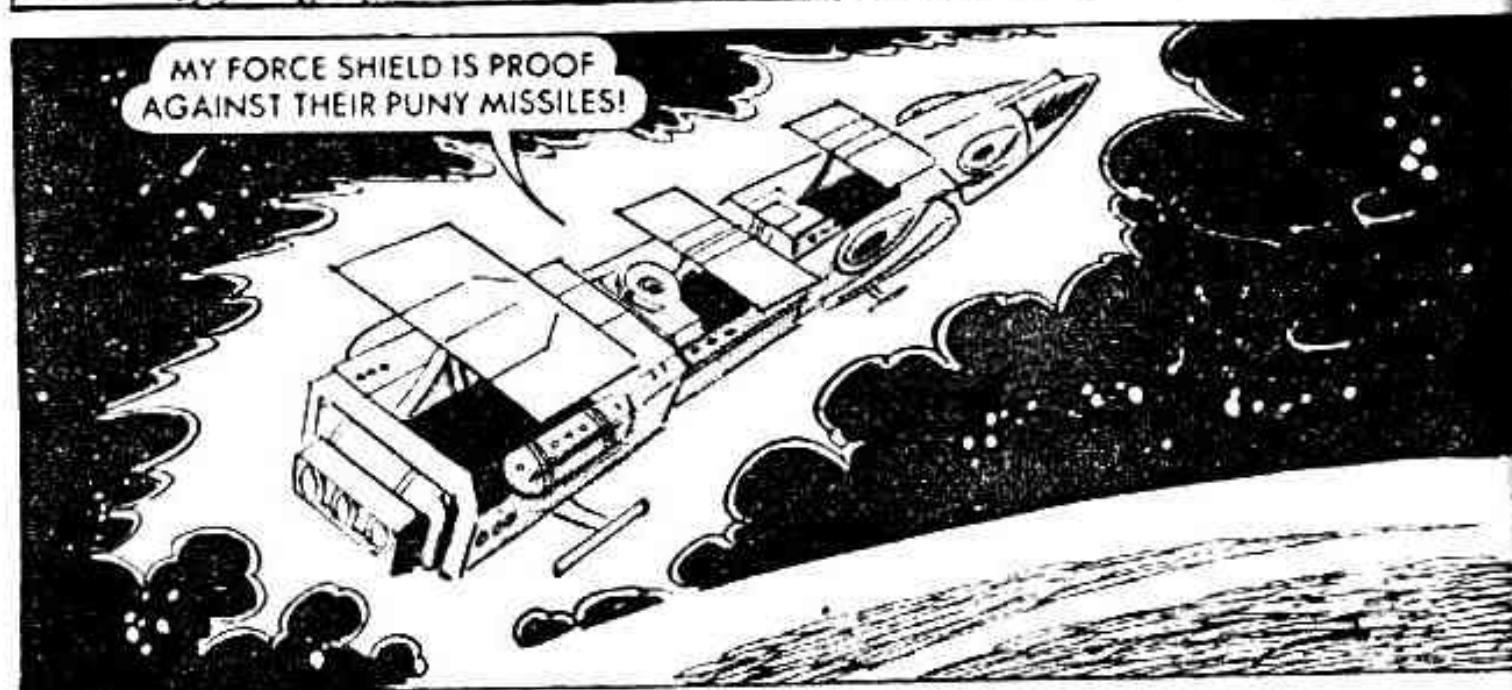
THE STARDART FIGHTERS RAN INTO A HAIL OF STARFLAK.

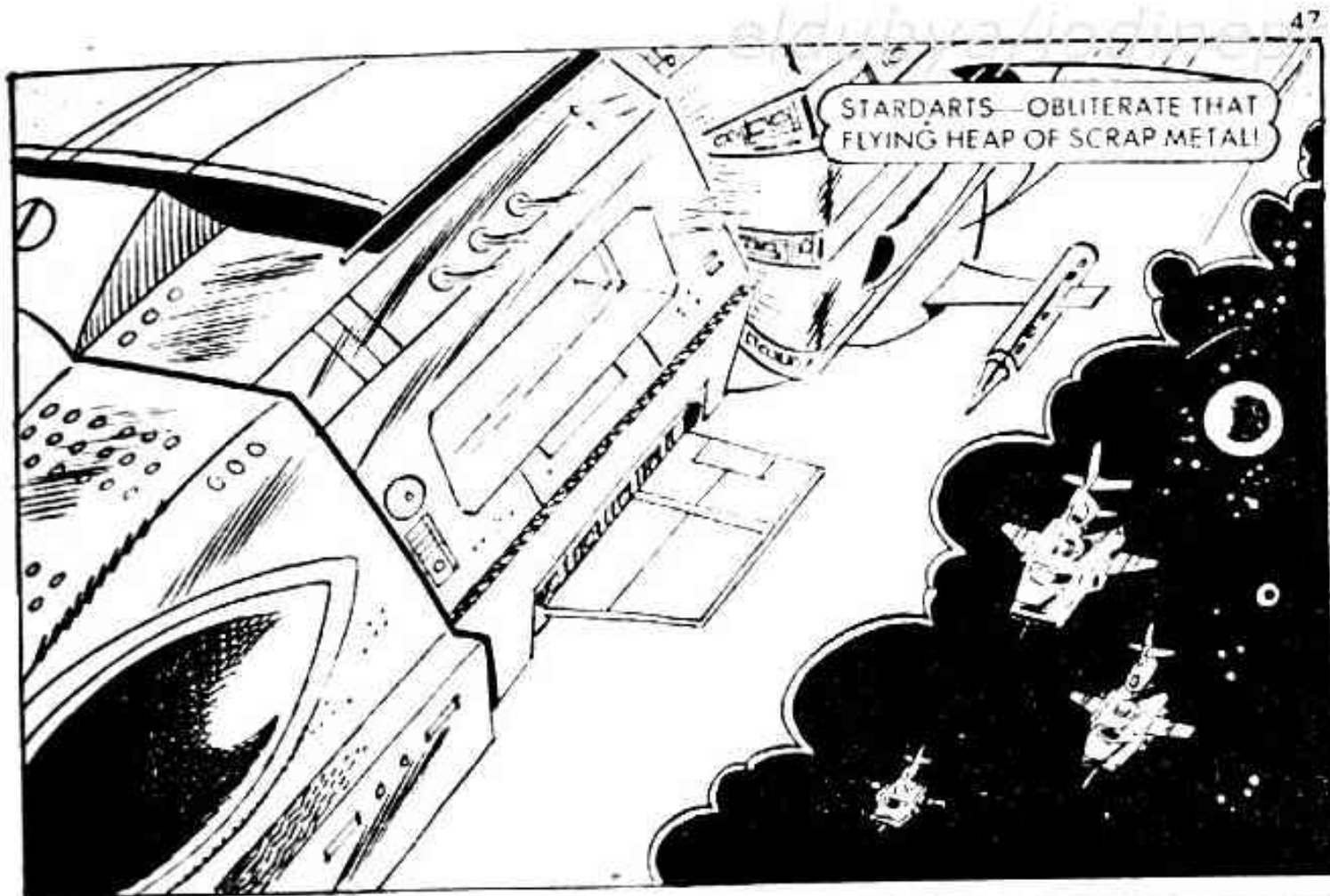


CRIPPLED FIGHTERS LIMPED BACK TO ROGAN'S COMMAND SHIP.

I, ROGAN, WILL DESTROY
THE MAYFLOWER.





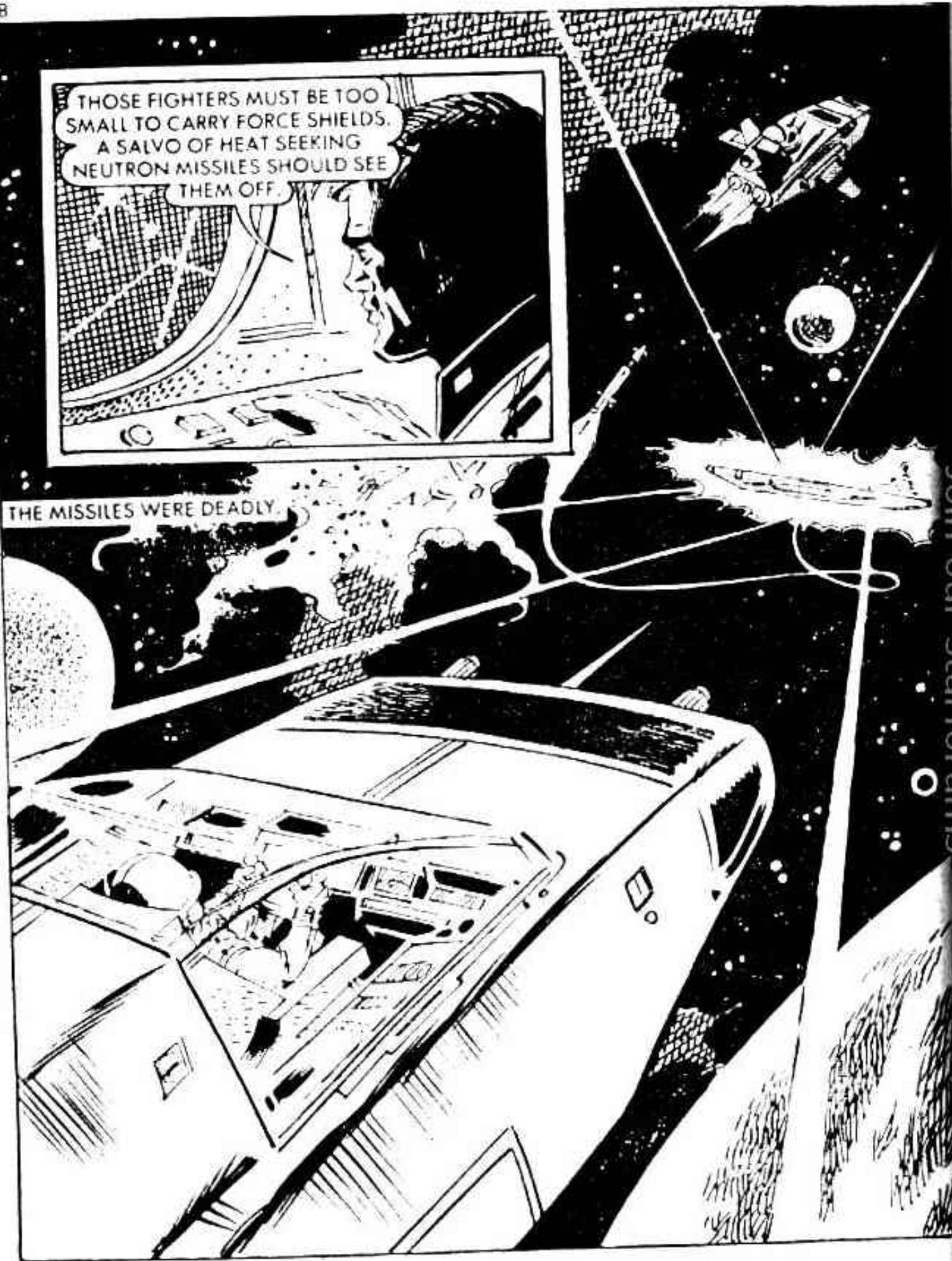


THE MAYFLOWER WAS FITTED WITH FORCE SHIELD PROJECTORS.



THOSE FIGHTERS MUST BE TOO
SMALL TO CARRY FORCE SHIELDS.
A SALVO OF HEAT SEEKING
NEUTRON MISSILES SHOULD SEE
THEM OFF.

THE MISSILES WERE DEADLY.

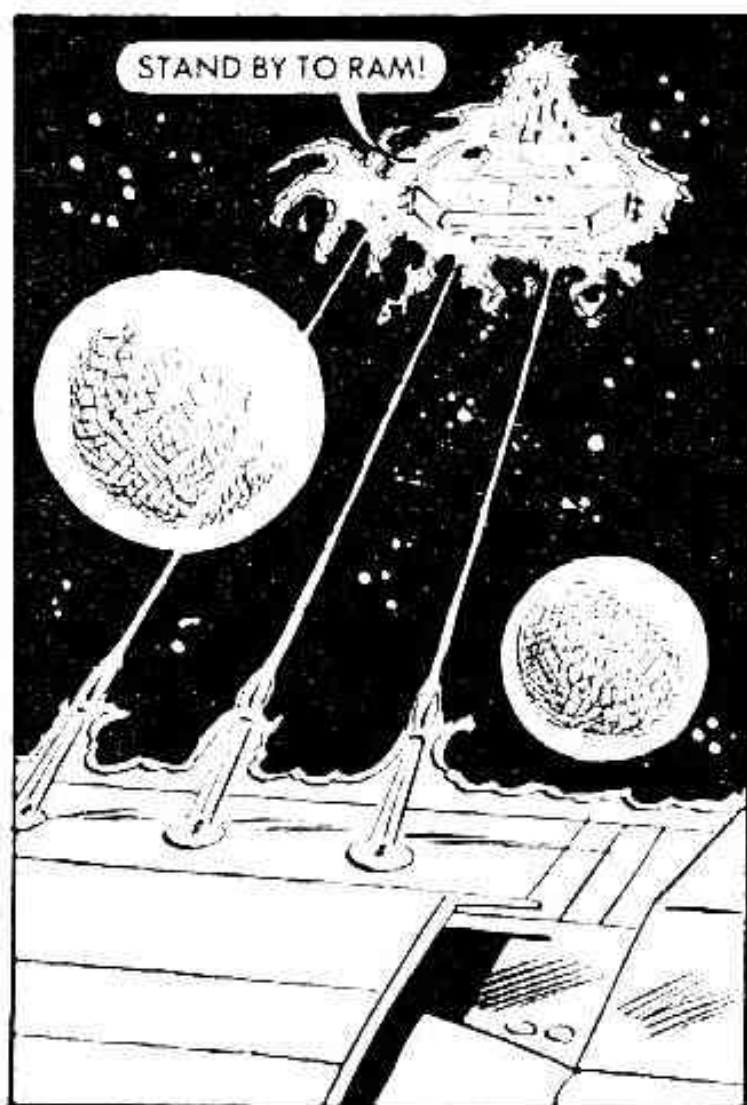
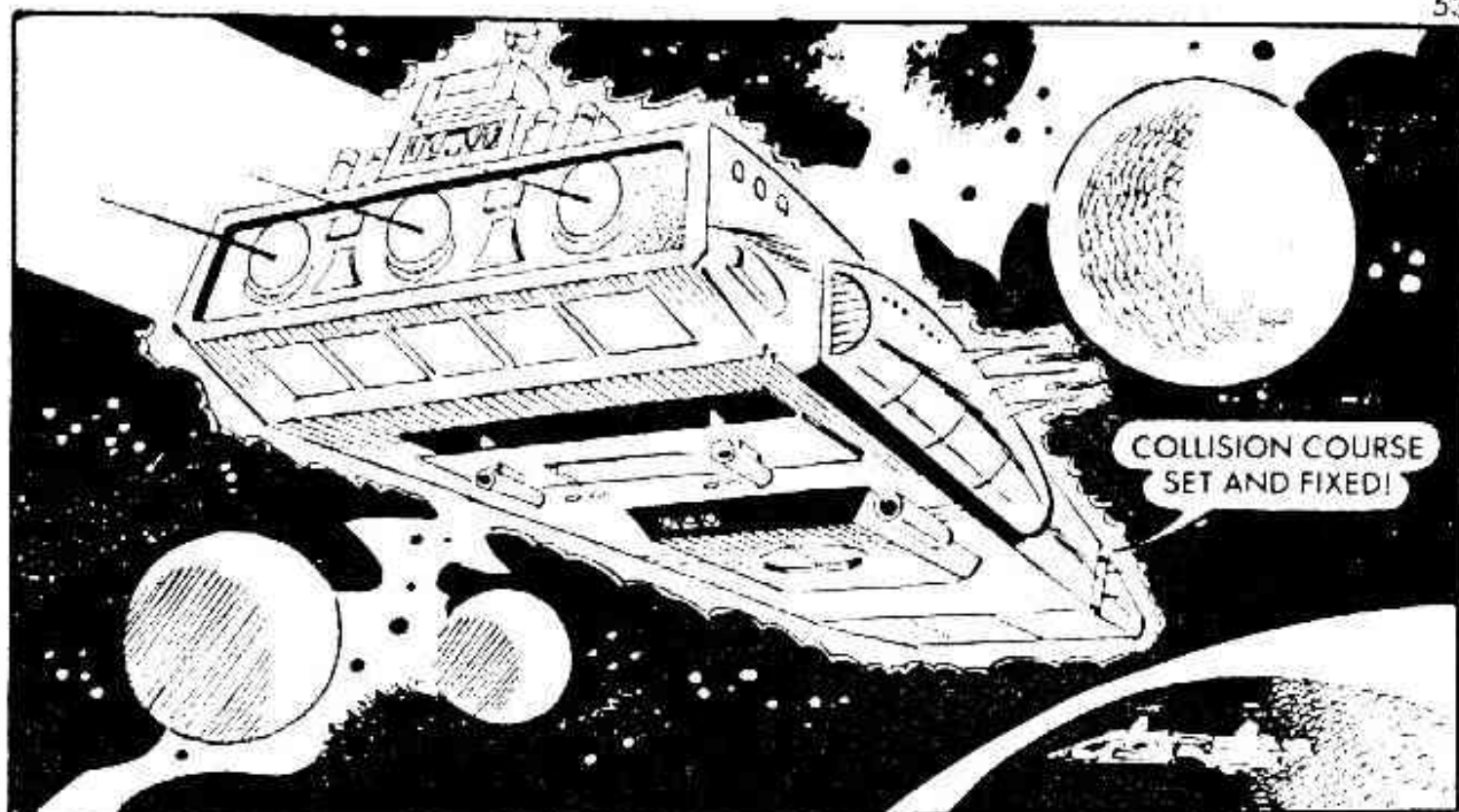


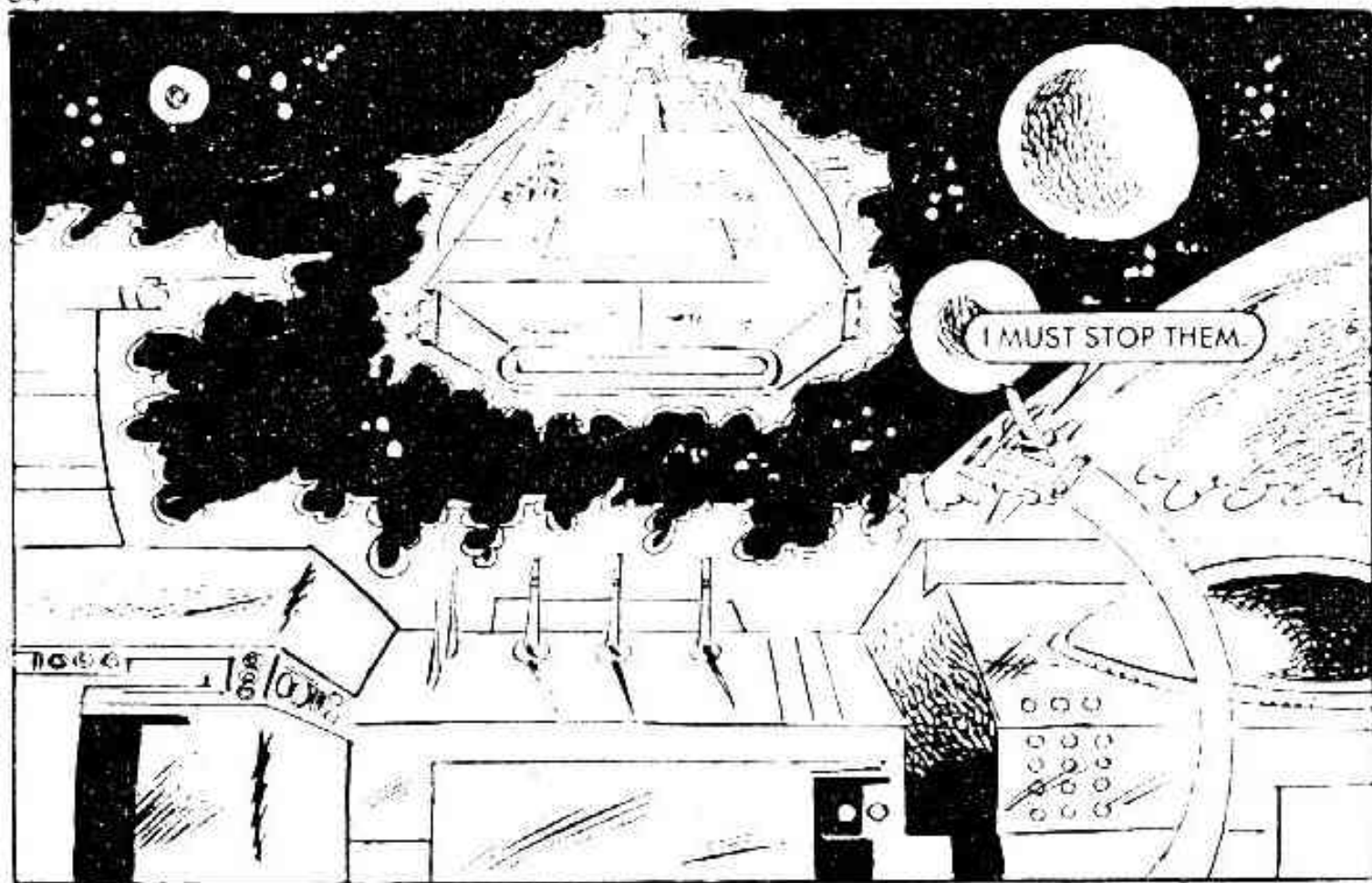




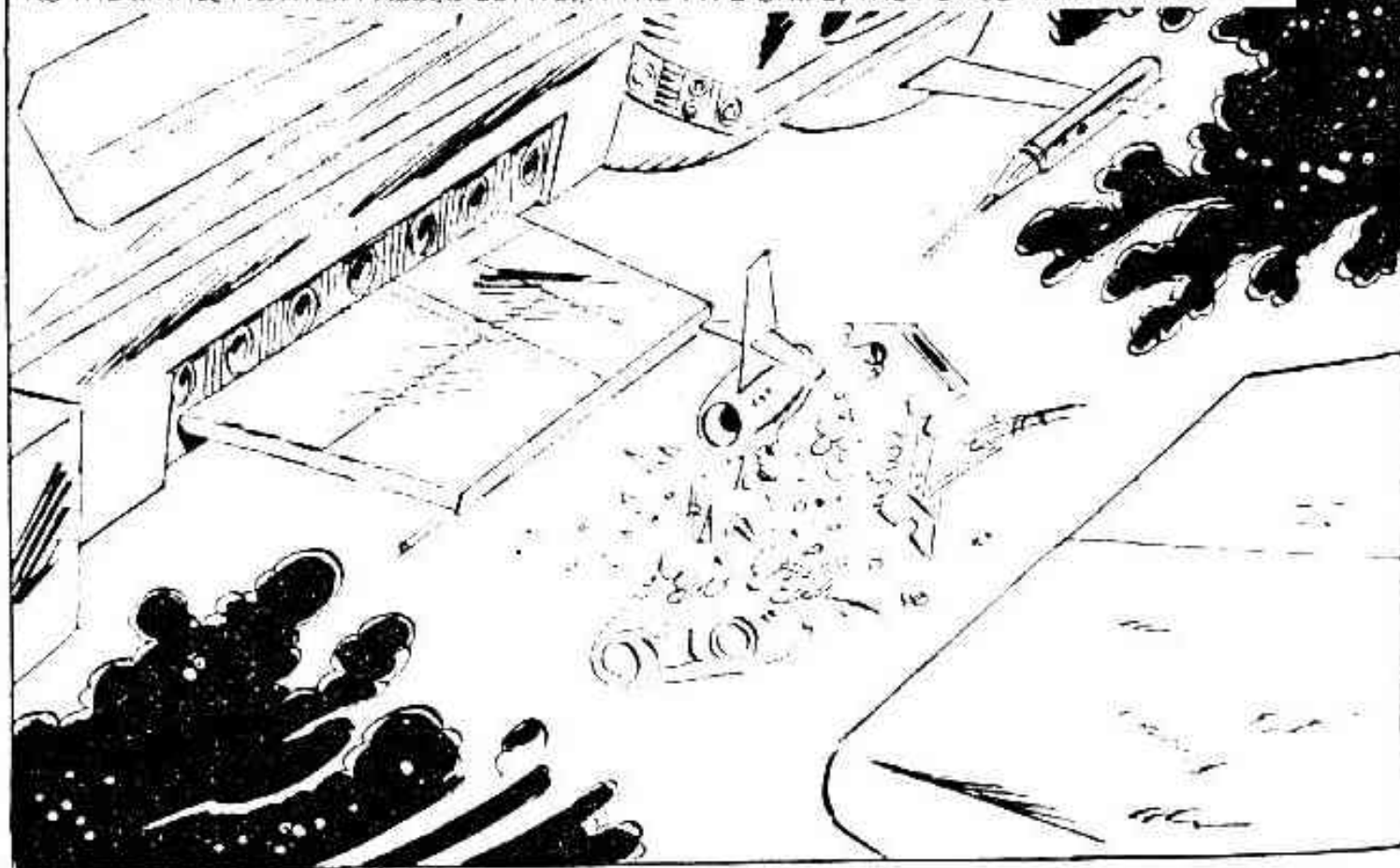




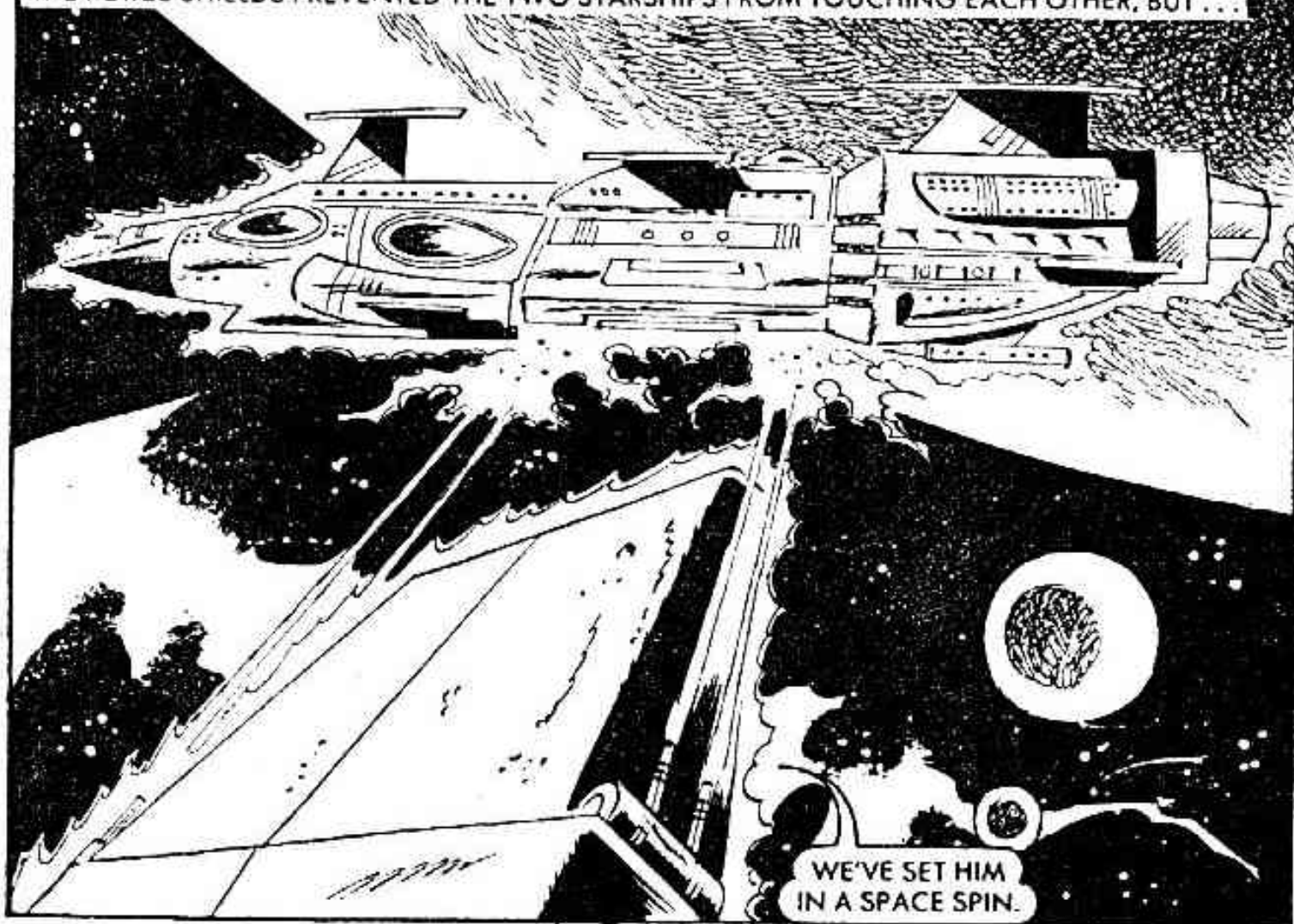




AS THE SMALL FIGHTER PASSED BETWEEN THE TWO SHIPS, THE FORCE FIELDS CRUSHED IT.



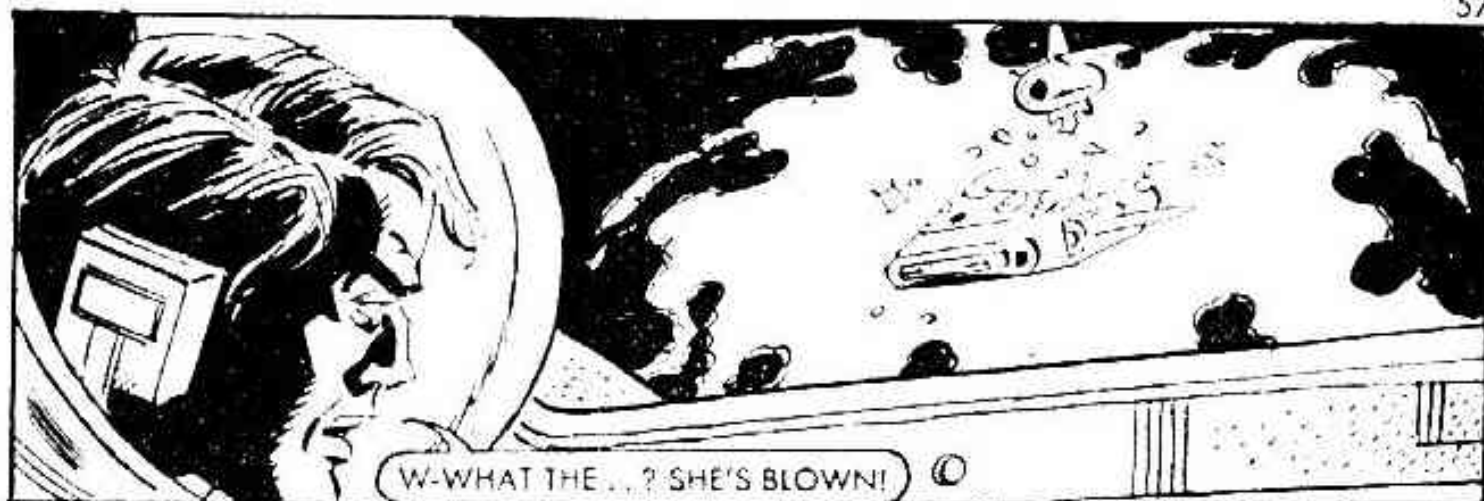
THE FORCE SHIELDS PREVENTED THE TWO STARSHIPS FROM TOUCHING EACH OTHER, BUT ...



THE SPACE SPIN PRODUCED A CENTRIFUGAL FORCE GREATER THAN THE COMMAND SHIP'S ARTIFICIAL GRAVITY.



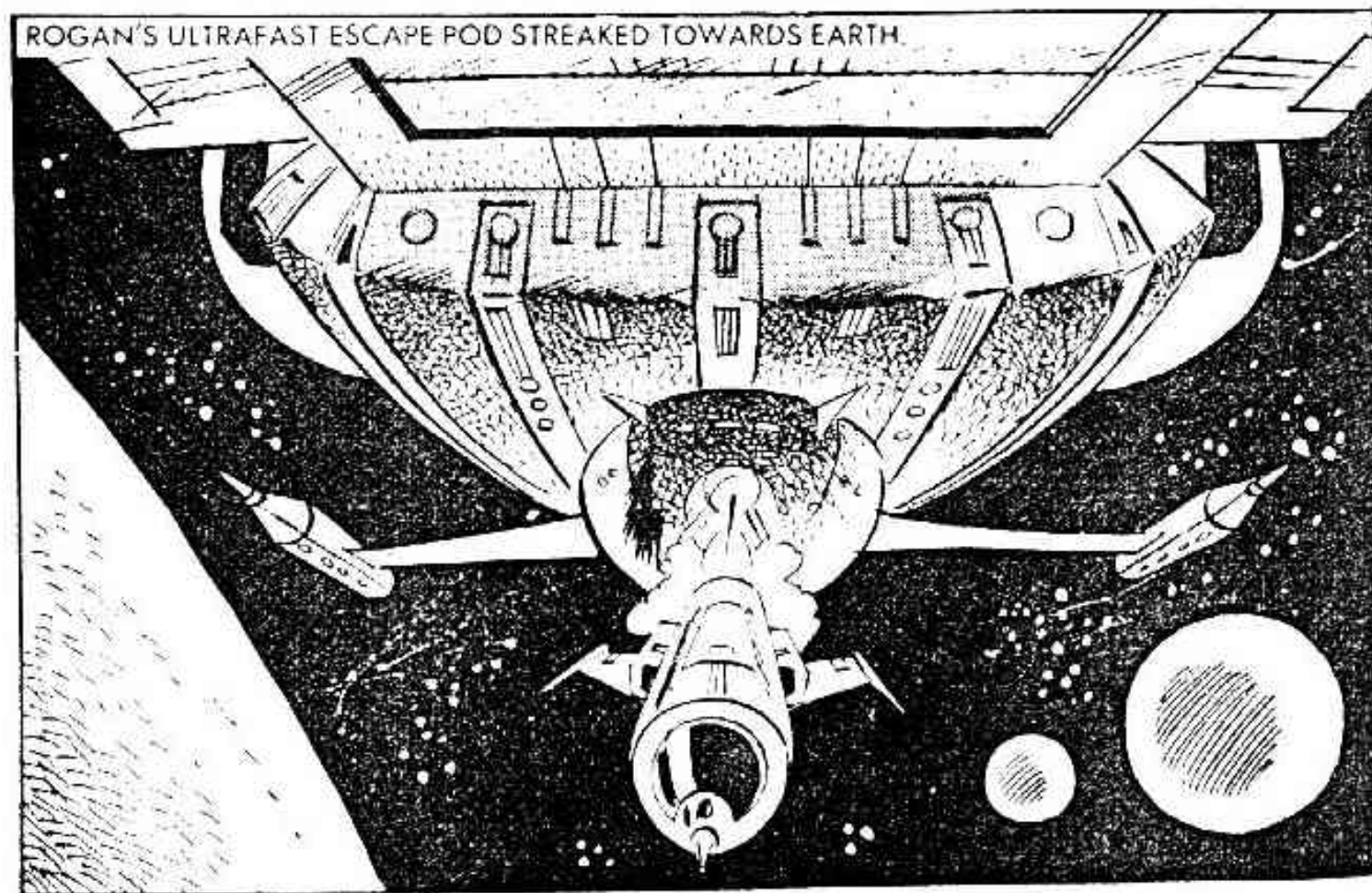




THE SHIP IS DOOMED. I MUST GET
DOWN TO MY FORCES ON DESTRA.



ROGAN'S ULTRAFAST ESCAPE POD STREAKED TOWARDS EARTH.



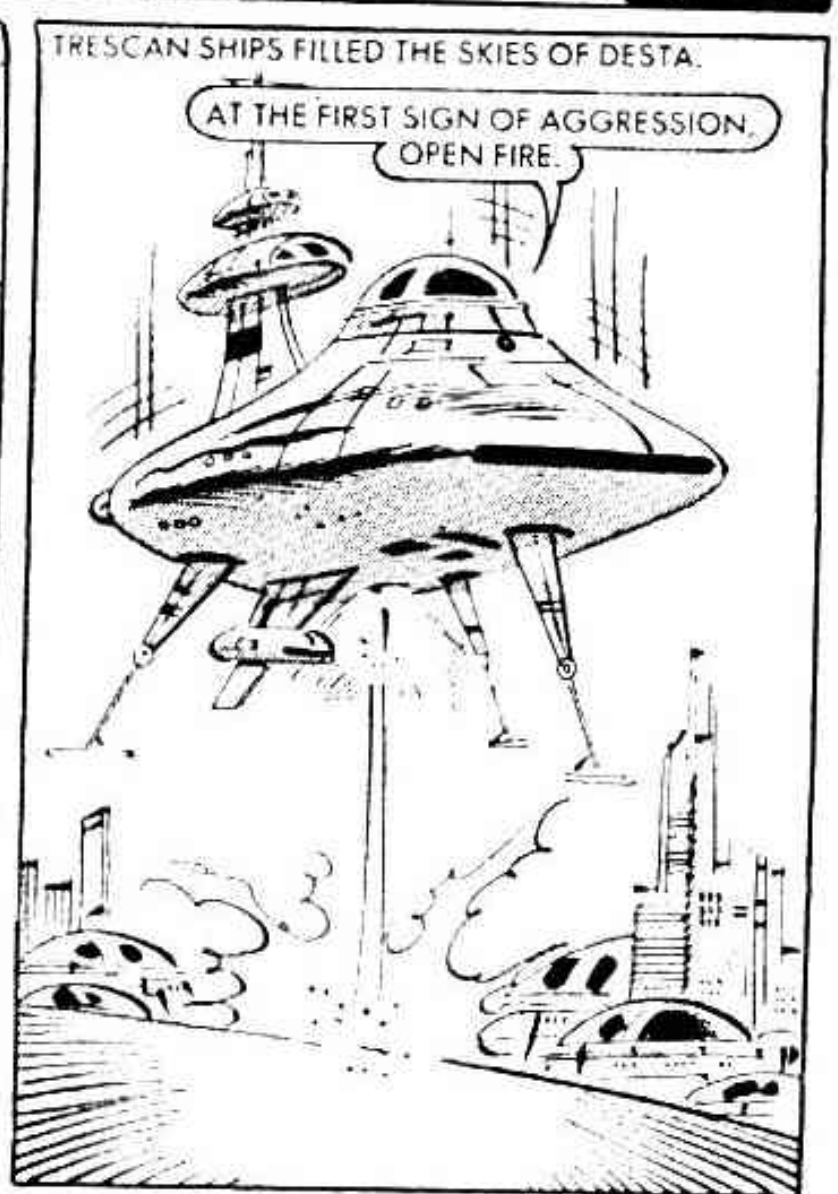
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NEWS OF THE SURRENDER SOON REACHED
THE MAYFLOWER.

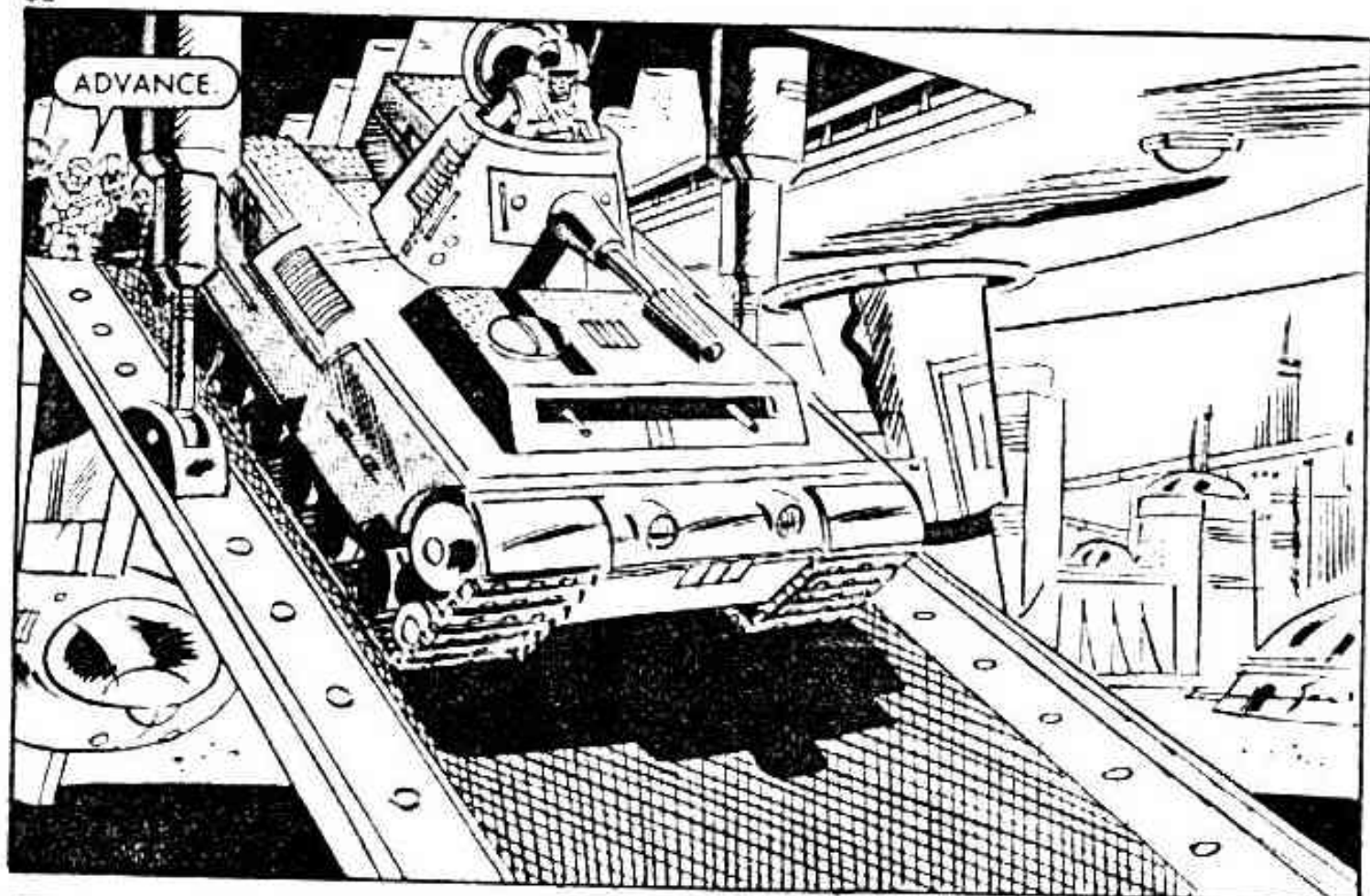
WE'VE BEEN
KNOCKED ONTO A
CRASH COURSE
WITH DESTRA AND
THE DRIVE IS TOO
WEAK TO WITH-
STAND THE
GRAVITATIONAL
PULL!

OUR WEAPONS ARE USELESS IN SPACE
SPIN, WE MUST SURRENDER.

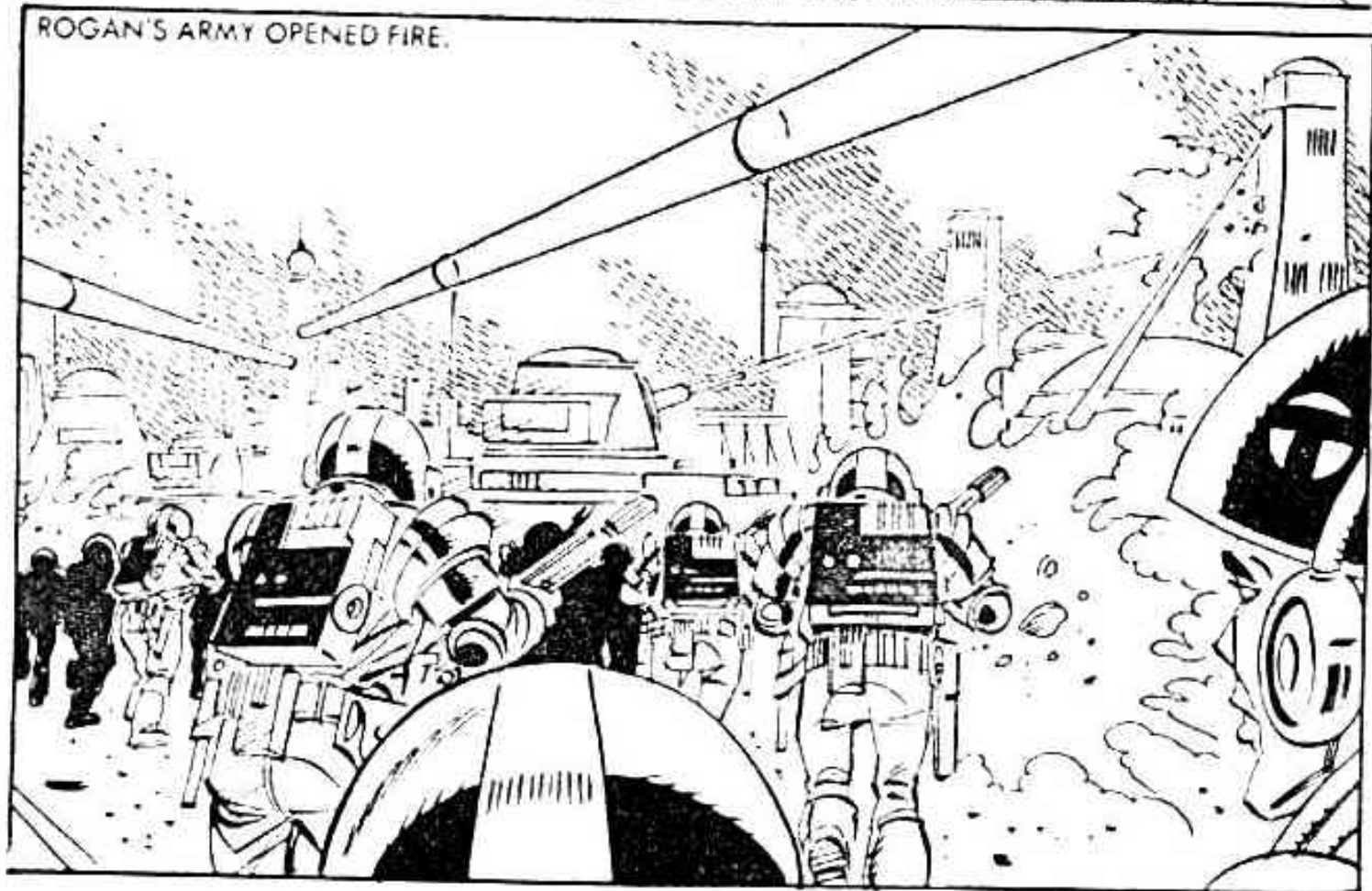
BEFORE WE COMMENCE PHASE TWO AGAINST
THE PLANET BASE I WILL CONSULT WITH THE
DESTRA STARSHIP.







ROGAN'S ARMY OPENED FIRE.





BLO CHARGED TOWARDS ROGAN'S
COMMAND CENTRE WITH A LASER TORPEDO



WITH A LAST DESPERATE EFFORT HE THREW THE TORPEDO.



BLO. WHAT A THING TO DO.

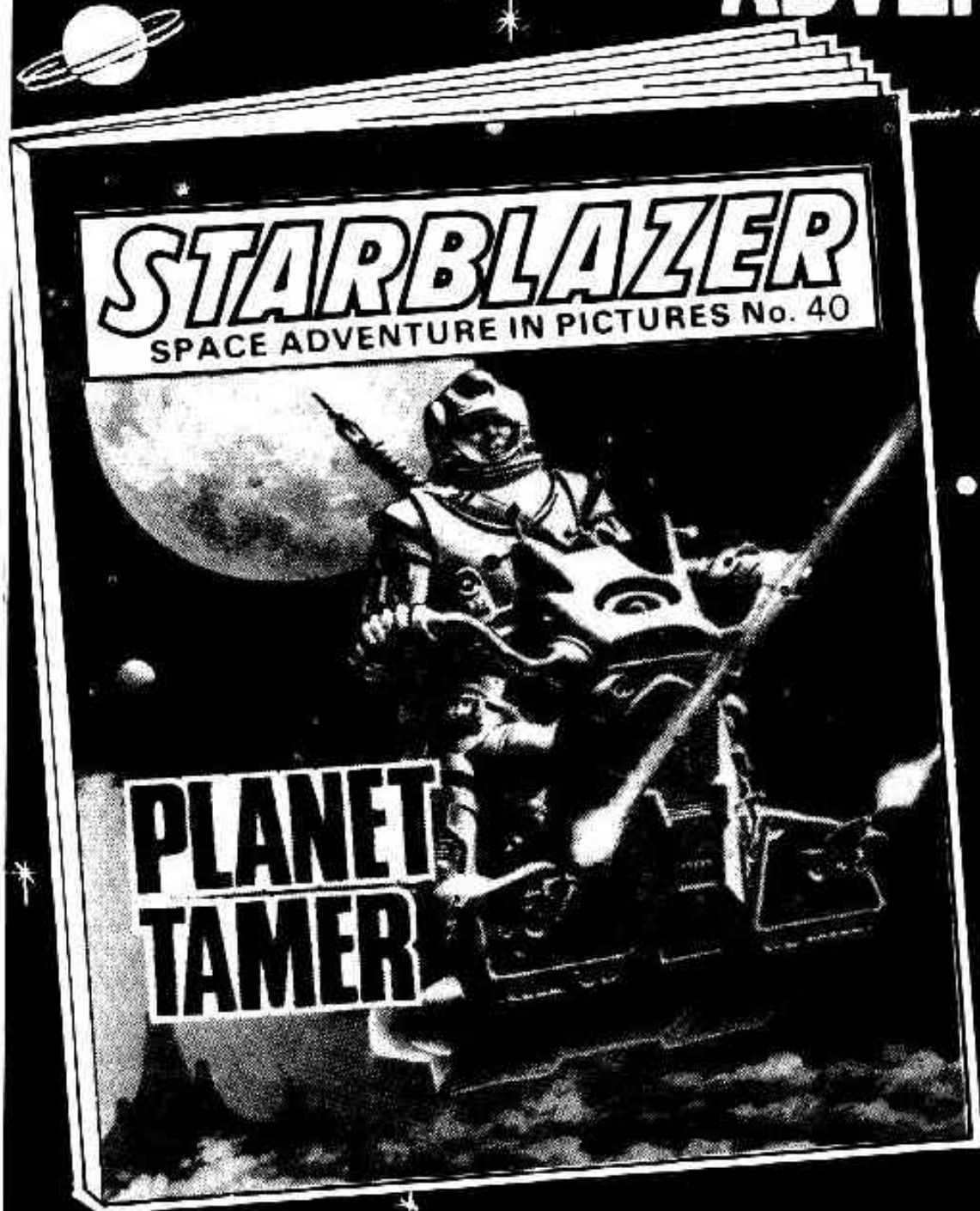


WITH ROGAN DESTROYED, DESTRA BEGAN TO RETURN TO NORMAL.



BLO, THE TRADER, DIED SO THAT OTHERS COULD BE FREE—AND HIS DEEDS WOULD NEVER BE FORGOTTEN WITH THE MAYFLOWER RESTORED TO A SPACE MUSEUM NAMED AFTER HIM.

**DON'T MISS THIS MONTH'S
OTHER ACTION-PACKED
ADVENTURE**



NOW ON SALE

STARBLAZERS

IN THE CONQUEST OF SPACE 41

Skylab

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

America's first space station, Skylab, was the home to three crews of three astronauts for 28, 59 and 84 days respectively, during 1973-74. It made a spectacular re-entry over Australia in 1979. This is the official Skylab emblem.